Danding out of 2004 election derby, allies say

Story below, COL. 1

Erap coming home to Mama Sunday

By Volt Contreras

THE FAMILY'S black sheep is coming home to Mama—but only for about 30 hours.

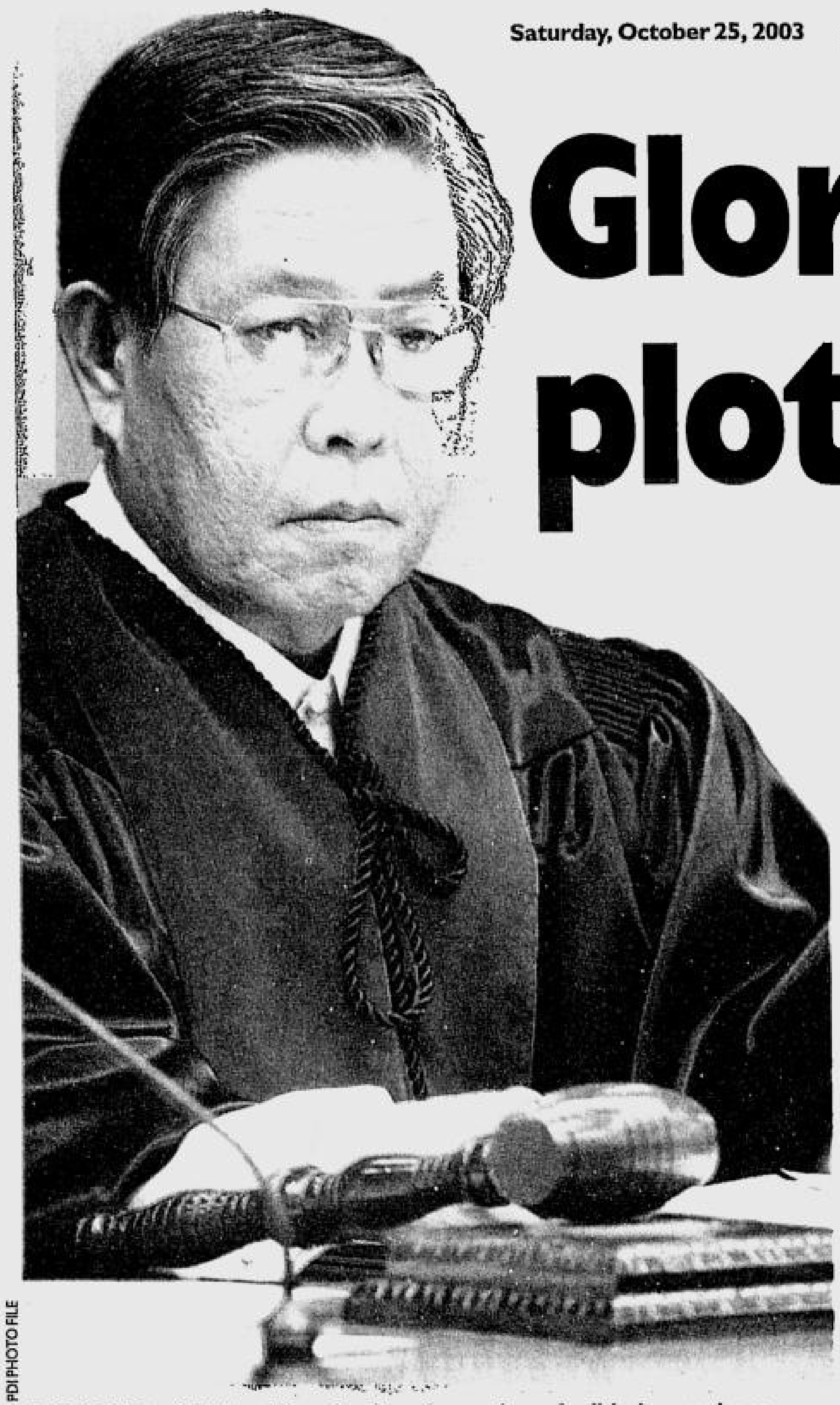
The Sandiganbayan yesterday granted the request of detained ex-President Joseph Estrada to visit his ailing, 98-year-old mother in her San Juan house.

ERAP/ A22

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Saturday, October 25, 2003 ★★ 96 pages / 11 sections / vol. 18 / no. 319 P15

PDI PHOTO FILE

DANDING COJUANGCO: Has he trivialized the impeachment process as "as an instrument for political arrangement in the 2004 presidential elections?



PDI PHOTO FILE

DAVIDE: "Sacrificial lamb" on the altar of a marriage of political convenience between the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats and the Nationalist People's Coalition with a dowry of P100 billion worth of San Miguel shares?

Gloria-Danding plot, says Joker

Chief Justice 'sacrificed on altar of GMA election'

By Christine O. Avendaño and Cynthia D. Balana

THE PRESIDENT, too, was involved.

Sen. Joker Arroyo, a member of the administration coalition, claimed yesterday that the second impeachment bid against Chief Justice Hilario Davide was more than a "political vendetta" on the part of businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco.

Arroyo accused President Macapagal-Arroyo of allowing the impeachment of Davide in a bid to win election next year. Ms Macapagal wanted to ensure that her Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats party and Cojuangco's Nationalist People's Coalition remain united for the May polls, Arroyo charged.

"The Chief Justice has been sacrificed (on) the altar of the Lakas-NPC unity for the reelection of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," Arroyo told the INQUIRER.

He said: "What are the stakes? One hundred billion pesos worth of San Miguel shares. Cojuangco claims the shares are his but the government asserts they are ill-gotten and, therefore, forfeitable. The Supreme Court had earlier ruled that the coco levy funds, which the government insists were used to purchase what now amounts to the P100-billion San Miguel shares are imbued with a public character. That Supreme Court ruling in 2001, for all intents and purposes, remains a major setback for Danding."

In the House, Speaker Jose de Venecia threw in the towel in the campaign to convince Lakas congressmen to withdraw their signatures from the second impeachment complaint against Davide after last-ditch efforts on Thursday night failed.

De Venecia said he had no choice but to transmit the complaint to the Senate because it had already met the constitutional requirement of at least a one-third vote of the members of Congress.

As of Thursday night, a total of 93 congressmen had signed the complaint.

De Venecia said he respected the deci-

GLORIA-DANDING / A21

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL: Did she allow her own party to deliver to Danding's party the required number of votes to impeach the Chief Justice? VAL HANDUMON

Palace hit for failure to defend Supreme Court

THE IMPEACHMENT of Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. has drawn sharp protests, cries of treason, and warnings of a "major constitutional crisis."

Presidential contender Raul Roco and his allies accused Malacañang and the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats of "failing to defend the Supreme Court against a clear political maneuver that could affect the decision of critical cases."

In a joint press statement released yesterday, Roco of the Aksyon Demokratiko party and his allies, Renato de Villa of Reporma and Lito Osmeña of Promdi, said "the leadership of Lakas, the dominant party that benefited from the Edsa Dos Revolution, appears to have entered into an unholy alliance with parties opposed to Edsa Dos."

"Thus, the most respected institution of the judiciary is under attack, and neither the President nor the Speaker of the House of Representatives has taken the initiative to support the Supreme Court and avert another political crisis," they said.

The three men called on the public to defend the high court from "an unmitigated political attack."

"It can lead to a major constitutional crisis. It will further set back the economy, destabilize the peso and paralyze business leadership," they warned.

In Cebu City, Vice President Teofisto

PALACE/ A21

Solons urge Davide to quit, say it's his only way out

By Carlito Pablo and Philip C. Tubeza

CALLS were aired yesterday for the resignation of Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., even by lawmakers who did not sign the impeachment complaint against him.

The lawmakers said Davide's resignation would spare the country from either of two scenarios: a constitutional crisis given his insistence that the complaint against him is illegal and unconstitutional, and the spectacle of a Senate trial that would not only drag down the judiciary but also cause economic and political instability.

As of noon yesterday, the number of signatories to the impeachment complaint had risen to 89, according to its principal author, Tarlac Rep. Gilbert Teodoro Jr. of the Nationalist People's Coalition.

But Supreme Court officials said Davide would not step down.

"I don't believe he will resign because he has the clear constitutional basis to stay in the office," said Court Administrator Presbitero Velasco Jr. "He has not done anything wrong. He has not committed any irregularity in the disbursement [of the Judiciary Development Fund]."

Velasco said Davide was to have gone to Tagbilaran yesterday but decided to stay in Manila to prepare his legal defense.

Ismael Khan, chief of the tribunal's Public Information Office, said resigning would be "a cop-out."

"This is one Chief Justice that you won't expect to back down from a challenge," Khan said.

But Teodoro said: "We are appealing

SOLONS / A21

Danding out of 2004 poll derby

By Cynthia D. Balana

IF SEVERAL congressmen are to be believed, businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. is now out of the presidential race.

According to House Minority Leader Carlos Padilla of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, one fact alone was telling. Sen. Edgardo Angara, LDP president, is trying to convince movie actor Fernando Poe Jr. to run. This is a clear indication, Padilla said, that Cojuangco, the founder of the Nationalist People's Coalition, is not running.

Cibac party-list Rep. Kim Bernardo-Lokin said she was told by Cojuangco's son, Mark, that their family is against Cojuangco running for president.

"My dad has nothing to gain but everything to lose," Lokin quoted Mark as saying.

Deputy Speaker Rolex Suplico had earlier said that because Cojuangco did not fulfill his promise to make an announcement by Oct. 15, the latter was no longer interested in running.

Suplico said the Sandiganbayan's recent ruling lifting the sequestration on a bloc of shares in San Miguel Corp. claimed by Cojuangco may have sealed his decision.

Padilla said that Angara, chair of the LDP committee of five tasked to talk to other political parties for a possible al-

DANDING/ A22

Senate coup in the offing; Villar denies he's behind it

By Christine O. Avendaño

A CHANGE in leadership in the Senate is said to be in the works, with Sen. Manuel Villar reportedly aiming to wrest control of the Senate presidency from Franklin Drilon.

Two sources, one a member of the majority bloc in the Senate and the other an opposition congressman who had gotten wind of the plan, said the coup was being "maneuvered" by Villar.

Villar, they said, was wooing the 10 senators in the minority bloc to support him as Senate president by offering up Sen. Noli de Castro as the standard-bearer of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) in the May 2004 presidential election.

De Castro and Villar are members of the so-called Wednesday Group in the Senate, along with Senators Joker Arroyo, Ralph Recto and Francis Pangilinan.

When contacted by the INQUIRER, Villar denied being part of a coup. He said he was not even aware of any such move.

"That's not true ... We're all busy," Villar said, pointing out that the Senate was preparing to convene into an impeachment court when the House of Representatives turns over the articles of impeachment against Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide.

Villar also stressed that De Castro had not made up his mind to run for president.

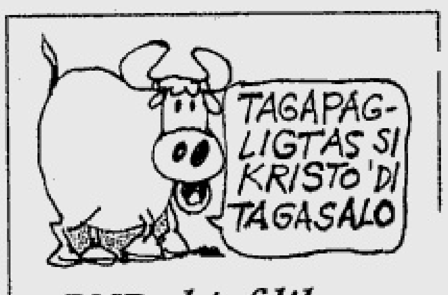
"We're not convincing him. It's Noli's call and decision," Villar said.

The member of the majority bloc who confirmed the plot to the INQUIRER said the coup was being planned to take place before Congress goes on a break on Oct. 31.

But the second source, the congressman, said he heard it would take place on Monday.

The first source said the coup had nothing to do with Davide's impeach-

SENATE/ A22



PNP chief likens self to Jesus Christ

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

HE FEELS he has been persecuted like Jesus Christ for the sins of his men. Unlike the Savior of souls, however, Philippine National Police Chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. is not about to be nailed to the Cross for his people's mistakes.

Ebdane, whose resignation was demanded by everyone—from meddling politicians to mutinous soldiers—following the embarrassing prison escape of Indonesian ter-

PNP/ A22

Political woes spook peso, stock market

By Clarissa S. Batino and Doris C. Dumlao

SPOOKED by political uncertainty and the impeachment of Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide, the peso continued to weaken yesterday while stocks closed marginally lower, traders said.

Yesterday, the peso was the poorest performer in the region, closing at P55.33 to the dollar from Thursday's P55.24. On a year-to-date basis, the peso had shed 3.2 percent and yesterday alone, it gave up 0.2 percent of its value the previous day.

Stocks ended a shade lower on cautious buying with the 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange composite index finishing 1.04 points or 0.08 percent lower at 1,363.40 points, adding to Thursday's 1.3-percent fall. For the week, the index has lost 3.93 points or 0.29 percent from last Friday's close.

Traders said that bid yields on government securities moved higher yesterday driven by anxieties over politics and the peso.

"A lot of banks are offering to sell. They're concerned about the Fernando Poe talk, the possible impeachment of Davide and the peso," a local investment house trader said.

In morning trade, the peso touched a low of P55.40 but at the noon trading break, the peso was quoted at 55.38 to the dollar, hovering near two-month lows.

Traders said news about the impeach-

POLITICAL/ A22

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will have cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread rains over Western Visayas including Palawan. The rest of Luzon will have partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/10/25/03

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

JI now top terror threat—GMA

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said the regional terror network Jemaah Islamiyah is now the top security threat to the country, replacing communist insurgents and Muslim secessionist rebels, due to its capacity to mount far-reaching terror attacks.

"We are elevating the JI in our national official threat spectrum," Ms Macapagal told a forum of the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines (Focap). "The JI's sinister plans are both deadly and far-ranging, both intended to threaten our country and to sow fear in the region."

The JI, believed to have links to the Al-Qaida terror network of Saudi-born Osama bin Laden, seeks the establishment of a radical Pan-Islamic enclave across Southeast Asia.

Focused

"We're going into a more focused campaign against the JI with a new order of battle; a new order of targets for domestic and transnational intelligence in concert with our allies," the President, a staunch anti-terror partner of the US, said.

There is now a need to "update our priorities," she said, noting that the Abu Sayyaf was "a spent force" and the government was set to enter into formal talks with the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Malaysia that should pave the way for a final peace agreement. The government peace negotiators also plan to hold similar peace talks with communist rebels within the next few months.

"Our ongoing constriction measures are cutting up their room for maneuver. The peace process with the MILF will continue to isolate them. Our determined moves against poverty will drain their recruitment base," the President said.

Growing presence

Recent arrests of top JI leaders in the Philippines have exposed the group's growing presence in the country.

The President's comments came a day after she presented to the media 23-year-old Indonesian suspect Taufek Refke, the alleged JI paymaster in the Philippines, who was arrested in Cotabato City on Oct 2. Refke is allegedly the JI's number two man in the Philippines.

Refke is believed to have trained under JI bomb expert Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi. Al-Ghozi earlier escaped from a Manila police jail but was subsequently killed in a shootout in Mindanao.

40 more

Officials said some 40 other JI militants, most of whom are believed to be Indonesians, are on the loose in Mindanao, where a massive manhunt has been launched.

Police said Refke had confessed under interrogation being the JI's "finance and liaison officer" responsible for funding deadly bombings in the south. His arrest led government forces to an alleged JI hideout in Cotabato City, where they recovered bomb-making equipment and radical Islamic literature.

According to police, Refke told authorities that JI's top man in the Philippines—known only as Julkifli or Zulkifli—had gone back to Indonesia.

The 12,500-strong MILF is the country's main Muslim force that is negotiating peace with Manila. It has denounced links to the JI.

"I want the MILF specifically to stand clear of the JI, because we have special teams on the trail of the JI fugitives," Ms Macapagal said.

"I don't want the manhunt to get in the way of the peace talks," she said, adding that intelligence units were preparing a list of known JI leaders to be transmitted to the MILF.

Handover

The military said it expects the MILF to hand over to the authorities suspected JI operatives should they stray into any of its camps in southern Philippines.

Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero, military chief information officer, pointed out that the MILF issued a joint communique with the government in May 2002 vowing to turn over suspected terrorists who entered MILF territories.

"We are working within our confidence in the MILF that indeed they will be true to their word to surrender any terrorist that they might sight or monitor in their areas," he told reporters.

Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson, said they are exerting efforts to track down the JI operatives and would hand them over to the authorities if captured.

"There are efforts (to track them down), but not officially. Our commitment still stands. It's not only because of the agreement, but it's our inherent duty and obligation to do that," he said in a phone interview.

He, however, said the MILF has not monitored the presence of JI operatives in any of its camps.

In and out

In Davao City, a ranking official said yesterday that JI operatives have been going in and out of the country through the seaports of Southern Mindanao.

Senior Supt. Eric Javier, chief of staff of the Southern Mindanao police, said that at least 19 JI members had been spotted in the region.

Javier told reporters here on Thursday that JI operatives have found Southern Mindanao the easiest way in and out of the country because of the region's proximity to Indonesia, particularly North Sulawesi.

But Javier failed to specify which particular ports the suspected terrorists used in entering the country. *With reports from TJ Burgonio, Anthony S. Allada and Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau, AFP, AP*

Top cop warns JI may head north

By Christian V. Esguerra

A RANKING police official has warned that the intensified campaign against the Jemaah Islamiyah in Mindanao may result in a "spillover" of terrorist activities to Metro Manila.

"It is possible that in view of the saturation drives, terrorist activities might spill over to Manila," said Deputy Director Gen. Reynaldo Velasco, chief of the National Capital Region Police Office, in a press conference Thursday.

To prevent such a scenario, especially with the approach of the All Saints Day holiday, Velasco said the PNP is increasing police visibility in likely targets such as vehicle terminals, shopping malls, metro rail stations and the Pandacan oil depot.

There will be "mobile" checkpoints all over Metro Manila and marshals will be on hand to back up regular police units in case of any untoward incidents, Velasco said.

The Regional Intelligence Coordinating Council will monitor the possible entry of JI members into the metropolis, he added.

Velasco, however, admitted there was no evidence to show that the JI, which has been linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida international terror network, was planning to operate in Metro Manila.

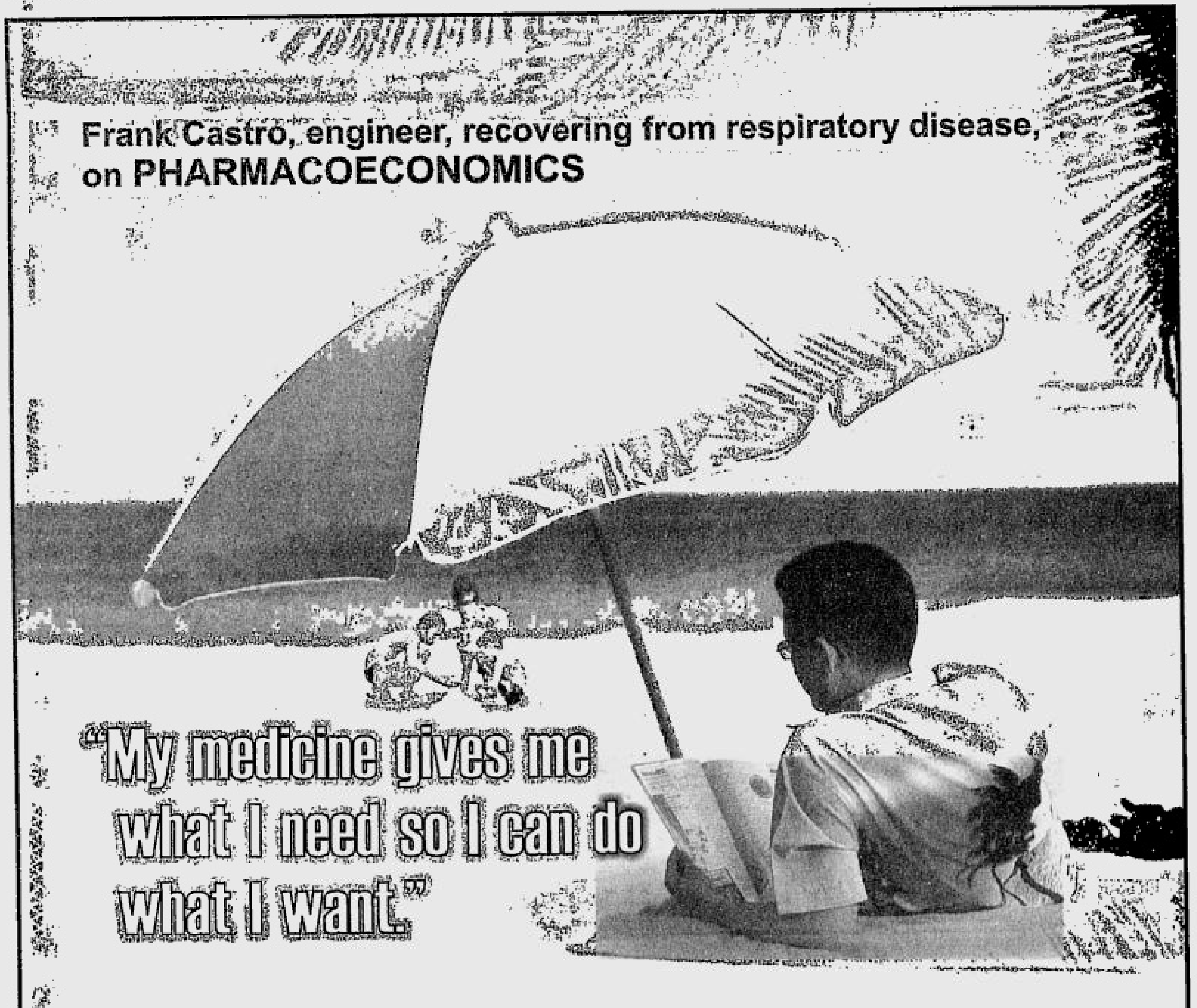
Told of Velasco's statement, PNP chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. appeared irritated. "It's not good to be speculating. The JI's activities are concentrated in Mindanao," he said.

Ebdane said the regional terror group would find it difficult to stage attacks in the country following the death of its bomb specialist and trainer Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi on Oct. 12 and the arrest of its finance and liaison officer, Taufek Refke, 10 days ago in Cotabato City.

"They're [the JI] on the run. They're now on vacation," he told reporters at a separate press conference also on Thursday.

Leaders of Muslim communities, he added, had assured the PNP they would not coddle suspected terrorists.

In a related development, Malaysian police in eastern Sabah state have beefed up security along the coast to prevent any intrusion by militants from neighboring Philippines, a report said Friday. *With an AFP report*



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Parliamentary system what RP needs, says GMA

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said there was a need to change the form of government from the presidential to the parliamentary system as the former placed so many obstacles to the critical reforms needed to place the country in step with the times.

"I feel that for the 21st century which is a rapidly changing century, we need a parliamentary form of government so that there is more fusion between the legislative and the executive [branches]," she said.

The President also said it would be good if the mandate to effect the change were to be given to Congress.

"Right now the Congress can't do it. It has to be the Constitution, so I would want a Constitution that says Congress may do it if it sees that that is the need of the times," the President said at the open forum that followed her speech before the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines.

It was not clear whether Ms Macapagal was directly endorsing a constituent assembly as the best mode for making these amendments to the Constitution.

The administration-controlled House of Representatives, led by Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., wants Charter change to be undertaken before the 2004 elections to pave the way for a transition to parliamentary government by 2007.

The Senate and the House are split on the issue, the former favoring a constitutional convention of elected delegates, and the House preferring a constituent assembly composed of senators and congressmen.

Ms Macapagal said the presidential system would be the best form of government "but as experience goes, it doesn't follow in our experience. There's just too much gridlock."

The President said she felt this "very acutely" because no matter how she tried to reach out to the legislative branch she could not get some of her key economic measures going.

She said other countries with presidential systems have the same gridlock but they were able to afford it because "things were not moving as fast then."

"The presidential form of government brings about legislative reforms at a pace that is slower than that required by the rapid changes that are happening in the world today and, therefore, the separation of powers between the executive and legislative, I think, is a hindrance to speedy reforms in the institutions," she said.

Angie Reyes takes over gov't anti-kidnap drive

BARELY a month after being designated as the country's anti-terror czar, former Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes was named yesterday by President Macapagal-Arroyo to head the government's drive against kidnapping.

In a statement, presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said the executive order installing Reyes in his new post was being finalized.

Bunye said Reyes would head the Anti-Kidnapping Task Force and the Police Anti-Crime Emergency Response (Pacer).

Bunye said Reyes' appointment was in response to businessmen's clamor for the government to do something about the rise in kidnap-for-ransom cases.

A jobless Reyes was appointed the anti-terror czar with Cabinet rank on Sept. 26 with the official title of Ambassador-at-Large for Counter-Terrorism.

Reyes resigned from the Department of National Defense on Aug. 29, a victim of the fallout from the Oakwood mutiny on July 27.

Malacañang, however, had described his departure as meant to "forestall a well-organized campaign to bring down the Macapagal administration." *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

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Month of sacrifice, celebration is upon Muslim world

By Samira Gutoc
Contributor

'TIS THAT time of year. But there won't be any fine dining or wine—no-no's among Muslims. Instead, the season will be marked by self-purification and soul-searching while fasting 12 hours per day.

This significant event in the Muslim world and most important month in the Islamic calendar, Ramadan, will be marked by the sighting of the full moon starting today, Saturday. If sighted, religious leaders across the Muslim world will announce the start of the fast, marked by a ritual of bathing or "rigo." The bathe is significant as it will signify one's intention to observe one of the most important pillars of Islam.

In celebrating the season, some Muslim villages will be brightened with colorful lights and streamers, with greetings of Happy Ramadan. This weekend, Muslim households will be busy shopping for groceries to store for the month. Mosques and sites of nightly congregational prayers called Taraweeh that end in the wee hours of the morning will be spruced up. Families will gather at night after the 6 p.m. prayers at the time of the breaking of the fast. Some homes and Islamic schools will be the sites of Islamic seminars teaching the virtues of Islam.

Despite ulama calls for less extravagance in meals, it is a time for fiesta-like reunions during break of fast in the evening. Moro tribes cook the traditional yellow rice with spicy chicken or beef, cooked in the halal or Islamic way.

The month is also a time for a "spiritual overhaul" as Muslims are enjoined to say extra prayers, give more charity (aside from the mandatory alms) and read the Holy Qur'an. Ramadan is said to have been the time when the Holy Qur'an was revealed to the last prophet, Muhammad.

For 12 hours in the day Muslims must avoid food, water and sexual relations. They are also forbidden from cursing, backbiting and lying.

Adults, except the pregnant and the elderly, are enjoined to fast. Children may fast if they can. Fasting starts from end of the "suhoor" or morning breakfast at about 4 a.m. and ends with the call to prayer at 6 p.m. The 6 p.m. meals or "iftar" are special occasions for Metro Manila communities which converge in the mosques for free cooked meals.

The Eidul Fitr holiday is the culmination of Ramadan. Muslims in native attire, clothed from head to toe, converge in major mosques for the 6 a.m. prayers. In recognizing the Muslim holiday, President Macapagal-Arroyo passed an executive order declaring Eidul Fitr a national holiday beginning in 2002.

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Commissioner Ralph C. Lantion
Commissioner Mehol K. Sadain
Commissioner Resurreccion Z. Borra
Commissioner Florentino A. Tuason, Jr.

PROMULGATED: 21 October 2003

RESOLUTION NO. 6378

WHEREAS, on 17 October 2003, Directors Ferdinand T. Rafanan and Esmeralda Amora-Ladra, National Capital Region, submitted a Memorandum relative to the postponement of the 27 October 2003 hearing of the Election Registration Board and the request for the re-setting of the same sometime in November 2003.

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Directors Rafañan and Amora-Ladra reads:

> *"This is to follow-up, Your Honor, on the agreement that was reached during our meeting with the Election Officers and Acting EOs of this region in Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club last 09 October 2003 to postpone the 27 October 2003 hearing of the Election Registration Board to a date to be fixed by Your Honor in November 2003.*
>
> *It shall be recalled that said agreement was reached due to the lack of time for our officers to prepare all the necessary documents for the said hearing specially the timely return of the accomplished forms for validation/registration which they submitted to the Data Migration and Conversion Committee and the sending of notices to the six (6) major political parties.*
>
> *Considering that we are ten (10) days away from the scheduled date of said ERB hearing, undersigned respectfully request that the said postponement be immediately approved in a resolution to be promulgated by the Honorable Commission En Banc.*
>
> *Thank you!"*

WHEREAS, on even date, Commissioner Mehol K. Sadain submitted a memorandum relative to the Election Registration Board Hearings, which reads:

> *"This has reference to the persistent inquiries coursed through our office from areas under our jurisdiction in the ARMM relative to the scheduled ERB hearings to begin ten (10) days from now.*
>
> *The difficulty being experienced by our team of verifiers tasked with examining and verifying the data taken from the July 25-30 ARMM registration for the purpose of generating the lists of registered applicant and forwarding the same to the duly constituted ERBs has come to our attention. With the coming Islamic fast to begin on October 26, 2003 in observance of the Holy Month of Ramadan, undersigned CIC respectfully recommends to the Commission En Banc the resetting of the scheduled ERB hearings till after the holy month of Ramadan.*
>
> *In this connection, the Office of Dir. Bartolome Sinocruz should come up with a new schedule taking into account the foregoing concerns for immediate approval by the Commission.*
>
> *For the Commission En Banc's approval."*

WHEREAS, there is a need to give ample time to qualified Filipino citizens registering for the first time and those applying for transfer of their registration records pursuant to Resolution No. 6294 promulgated on August 13, 2003;

WHEREAS, reports from field officials revealed that there are numerous qualified Filipino citizens registering for the first time and those applying for transfer of their registration records who cannot be accommodated due to the volume of registered voters who submit themselves for validation for the 2004 Elections;

NOW THEREFORE, the Commission **RESOLVED,** as it hereby **RESOLVES,** as follows:

1. to **approve** the following timelines relative to the applications for registration/validation nationwide:

APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION/VALIDATION RECEIVED FROM:	LAST DAY TO POST NOTICE OF HEARING	LAST DAY TO FILE OPPOSITION	ELECTION REGISTRATION BOARDS HEARING DATES
August 4, 2003 (MON) to September 30, 2003 (TUE)	November 03, 2003 (MON)	November 10, 2003 (MON)	November 17, 2003 (MON)
October 1, 2003 (WED) to October 31, 2003 (FRI)	November 24, 2003 (MON)	November 30, 2003 (SUN)	December 08, 2003 (MON)

2. to **suspend** validation of voters in areas where the Data Capturing Machines (DCMs) are deployed effective immediately and to resume on November 2, 2003.

Let the Election and Barangay Affairs Department implement this resolution.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

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GMA: Security Council seat source of pride

THE ELECTION of the Philippines to the United Nations Security Council is a source of national pride and will put the country in a strong position to contribute to world peace, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday.

Along with Algeria, Brazil, Romania and Benin, the Philippines won a two-year seat on the Security Council on Friday. All five candidates were unopposed and won the support of 171 nations in voting by the 191-member General Assembly.

"This shows the support, respect and prestige we have gained in the international community," Ms Macapagal said in a statement. "Our seat in the UN Security Council, combined with our earlier designation as a major non-Nato ally by the United States, puts our country in a vantage position to contribute to world peace and achieve enduring peace in our own shores."

President Macapagal pledged to continue fighting terrorism and poverty and to work with other nations in promoting multilateral peacekeeping and the rule of law.

Only the five permanent members of the 15-member council—the United States, Britain, Russia, China and France—have veto power, enabling them to block resolutions.

The five new non-permanent members replace Bulgaria, Cameroon, Guinea, Mexico and Syria. The UN Security Council has 10 seats reserved for rotating members in addition to the permanent members.

This is the fourth time the Philippines sits in the UN Security Council. It was elected to the exclusive body in 1957, 1963 and 1980.

Ambassador Lauro Baja, the Philippine permanent representative to the UN, will take the country's seat in the council during regular meetings, while Foreign Secretary Blas Ople will take over during crucial meetings.

In a video message following the country's election to the council, the President said: "The Philippines is honored and privileged to serve the UN in a most sensitive and meaningful capacity in this century of crisis, challenge and opportunity."

While the Philippines won the seat with the help the 52-nation Asian bloc and intensive lobbying (the President herself went to the UN a few weeks ago), Ms Macapagal said the country has gained respect and prestige in the international community due to the Filipinos' fight against terrorism and poverty and willingness to work with other nations in promulgating international consensus, multilateral peacekeeping and the rule of law."

In recent years, the Security Council has spent about 60 percent of its time dealing with wars and other crises in Africa, though this year the debate over the US-led war on Iraq and its aftermath may have topped African issues. Iraq will undoubtedly remain an important issue next year as will the global fight against terrorism.

The Security Council's agenda is mainly governed by global events, though members can choose to focus on specific issues when they hold the council presidency, which rotates monthly.

For the Philippines, winning a council seat gives the country "elevated status" and validates the government's policies and commitment to democracy and justice.

Ambassador Baja said the country will likely promote international efforts to tackle collective security and promote the rule of law.

But there are two issues the Phi-lippines hopes won't make it to the Security Council—the nuclear problems in Iran and North Korea, he said.

"We are hoping that diplomacy will work before these issues come to the Security Council," Baja said in an interview. *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., AP*

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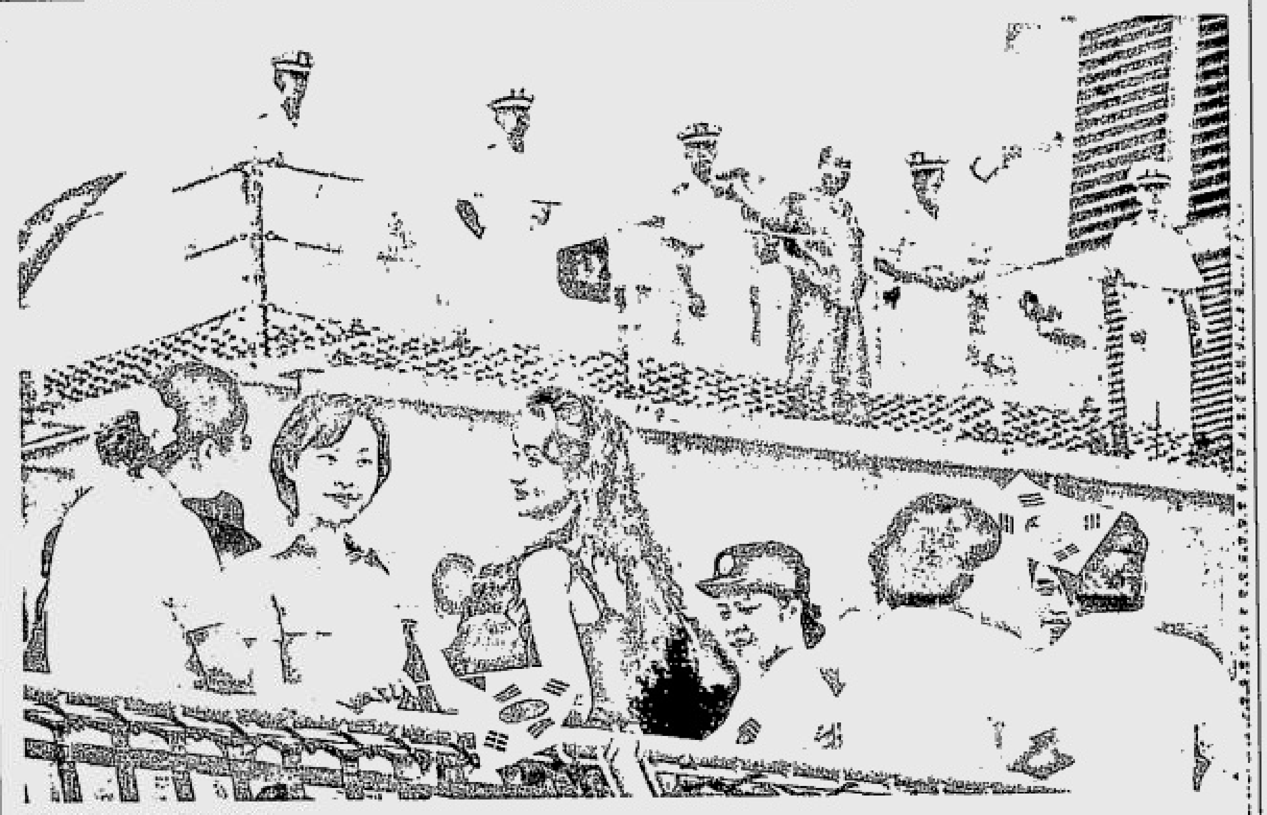

KOREAN GUESTS
Korean expatriates in the Philippines wait to welcome members of the Korean Navy aboard the warship Yangmanchoon which docked at the Manila South Harbor yesterday along with two other Korean Navy ships for a three-day goodwill visit.
ERIK ARAZAS

Vegetable farmers watching out for Lorenzo in extortion case

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—Farmers' groups here are closely watching developments in the extortion case filed by a vegetable importer against Secretary Luis Lorenzo Jr. and four other officials of the Department of Agriculture.

Benguet Board Member Johnny Uy said farmers were shocked to learn that Lorenzo and four other DA officials had been accused of extortion by one of the importers Lorenzo is investigating.

"How can (importers) sue Lorenzo when the secretary should be suing them for using recycled import clearances?" Uy asked.

Uy said Lorenzo had addressed the complaints raised by Benguet Gov. Raul Molintas and the Benguet Federation of Farmers (BFF) in August about the unabated importation of Chinese vegetables despite a presidential directive to suspend the importation of Chinese carrots.

Molintas attached copies of import clearances issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry to several commercial distributors, who get their vegetable supplies from abroad.

He said the clearances violated a directive issued by Lorenzo that centralized the issuance of permits under his office. The clearances used in recent transactions did not bear the official seal of Lorenzo's office.

Uy said Lorenzo's predicament proved that some importers and government officials are "stronger than the President." He said this situation threatens the government's current bargaining position, which seeks better agricultural terms outside of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

As this developed, a vegetable trader filed Thursday graft charges against Lorenzo and four agriculture officials before the Ombudsman, claiming they extorted P3.4 million from him in exchange for import permits.

Henry O, president of Asia Lucky Five Inc., accused Lorenzo and four of his aides—DA Anti-Smuggling Task Force head Benjamin Angeles, then Assistant for Special Projects Jose Macaspac III, Special Assistant for Legal Matters Benjamin Tabios and Assistant for Finance and Administration Jesus Varela—of extortion.

In a seven-page complaint, O said the respondents "through Macaspac," a former newsman, "demanded grease money" in exchange for import permits from Jan. 16, 2003 to Sept. 30, 2003.

O said he paid a total of P3.4 million, of which P1.5 million was in cash and the rest in checks for P1 million, P400,000, and P500,000. The "pay to cash" checks were issued last Jan. 16, Feb. 28, and March 27, respectively.

However, a DA official branded as blackmail the graft charges filed against Lorenzo and other executives of the DA.

Lawyer Benjamin Tabios said the DA will not relent in its efforts to protect the local farmers and to stop the smuggling of foreign-grown vegetables in spite of a smear campaign and acts of blackmail.

"Vegetable importer Henry O has the gall to accuse agriculture officials of graft after one of the shipments of his company was found to have been misdeclared," Tabios said.

Tabios said two container vans declared as containing carrots from China were found by quarantine and customs officials to contain chicken eggs instead. *With reports from Volt Contreras and Norman Bordadora*

DSWD: Domestic abuse cases down

By Volt Contreras

THE GOVERNMENT has reported some progress in the campaign against domestic violence.

The social welfare department yesterday reported a 20-percent drop in wife-beating and child abuse cases in the six regions that are the pilot areas of a 1999 project to address such underreported crimes.

The decline was observed in selected communities in Central Luzon, Southern Tagalog, Bicol, Eastern Visayas and Northern Mindanao, where the Department of Social Welfare and Development started four years ago the National Family Violence Prevention Program.

The DSWD started implementing the program in the rest of the country this year.

Social Welfare Undersecretary Lourdes Balanon explained that the program consists mainly of an education drive focusing on conflict-prevention and resolution within families instead of at the barangay court level where such cases are usually first reported.

Villagers are brought together in meetings where social workers preside over discussions on stress and anger management. They are given advice on how to deal with the notorious Filipino male "machismo," Balanon explained at a press forum yesterday.

Among the basic principles that the menfolk are made to understand in the community meetings was that "being drunk is not an excuse" for violence, she said.

Children are taught to "say no" to sexual advances, to speak out against their sexually abusive fathers, brothers or uncles, she said.

In Barangay Pamatawan in Subic, Zambales, for example, there were 26 domestic violence cases reported when the program was first started in 1999.

In succeeding years, the number was reduced to only three in 2000, three in 2001, two in 2002 and four in 2003, said Balanon.

Heart doctors take exam

FORTY-SEVEN physicians will take the first certifying examination for hypertension specialists today at the Bonaventure Plaza in Greenhills, San Juan.

The exam is part of an innovative and pioneering program recently launched by the Philippine Society of Hypertension (PSH) to develop, recognize and designate physicians with expertise and knowledge in the management of hypertension and related disorders.

PSH president Dr. Esperanza Cabral said the program, which was launched in May, aims to certify an initial batch of 96 hypertension specialists during the annual convention of the PSH and the Philippine Lipid Society on Feb. 5-7 next year at the Edsa Shangri-la Hotel.

Cabral said hypertension is one of the most important risk factors for cardiovascular disease and a major cause of mortality and morbidity in the Philippines.

Cotabato cop chief faces probe for 'planted' remark

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

CAMP DANGWA, Benguet—Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. of the Philippine National Police said the relieved Cotabato City police chief should not expect to be reinstated despite the appeals of Cotabato officials because he "talked too much."

On top of his troubles, Senior Supt. Perako Makakua may find himself facing a probe for his alleged link to terrorists.

Makakua was ordered relieved by Ebdane for saying the terrorist manuals and bomb-making materiel found in an alleged Jemaah Islamiyah safe house in Cotabato City last week had been planted by the police.

Cotabato Mayor Muslimin Sema had described the relief of Makakua as proof of a "double standard" in the police force because another Cotabato police officer was not sanctioned after making similar statements in another case.

Sema said Ebdane did not censure Chief Insp. Raulito Soyum, police chief of Pigcawayan, North Cotabato, who belied the shootout scenario given by police in the Oct. 12 killing of fugitive terrorist Fathur Roman al-Ghozi.

"There is no double standard here because Makakua had no basis for declaring that the police had planted evidence. On the other hand, Soyum corrected his error," Ebdane told reporters here on Friday.

Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, police information officer, said Thursday the PNP would probe Makakua for his statement about planted evidence, adding the police chief may have made the remark because of a possible link to the regional terrorist network.

Bataoil said he phoned Makakua immediately after the latter made the statement in a television interview and was told the basis for the remark was the narration of neighbors of the raided house.

"I asked him if he was part of the [terrorist] operating unit and he said he was not," Bataoil said. "If that is so, how could he allege the evidence had been planted?"

Aside from his "irresponsible and unfounded" statement, Bataoil said Makakua was also sacked under the principle of command responsibility. *With Christian V. Esguerra*

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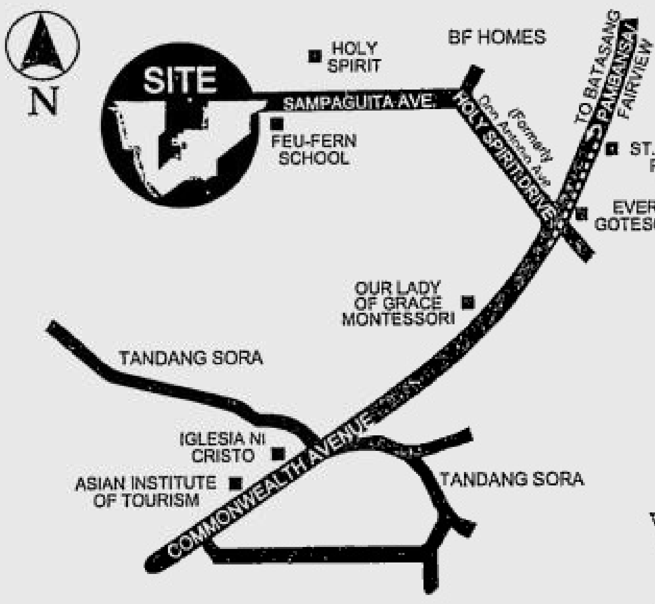

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While we get to see costumes and masks of Dracula, Frankenstein, Casper or Scream during Halloween, did we ever wonder what happened to the *Tikbalang*, Zuma or *Babae sa Balete?*

See these *Pinoy* horror-folk come to life as Ayala Land's Ferndale Homes celebrates its first all-Filipino motif Halloween Open House on October 26, 2003 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Ferndale Homes, along Sampaguita Ave., Quezon City.

As children and adults alike usually celebrate Halloween by donning costumes of popular western characters, the local fictional characters that abound the Philippine pop culture have slowly been forgotten. Thus, Ferndale Homes residents came up with a different concept – they offer an unforgettable experience by recognizing and remembering the *Pinoy* fictional characters such as the super heroes and comic-book characters as well as creatures from local horror stories.

Join Darna, Captain Barbell, Valentina, the *duwende*, and more in a whole day affair where lots of games, surprises, tricks and treats await not only the children but their parents as well. Awards will also be given to participants with the best costume and the scariest home.

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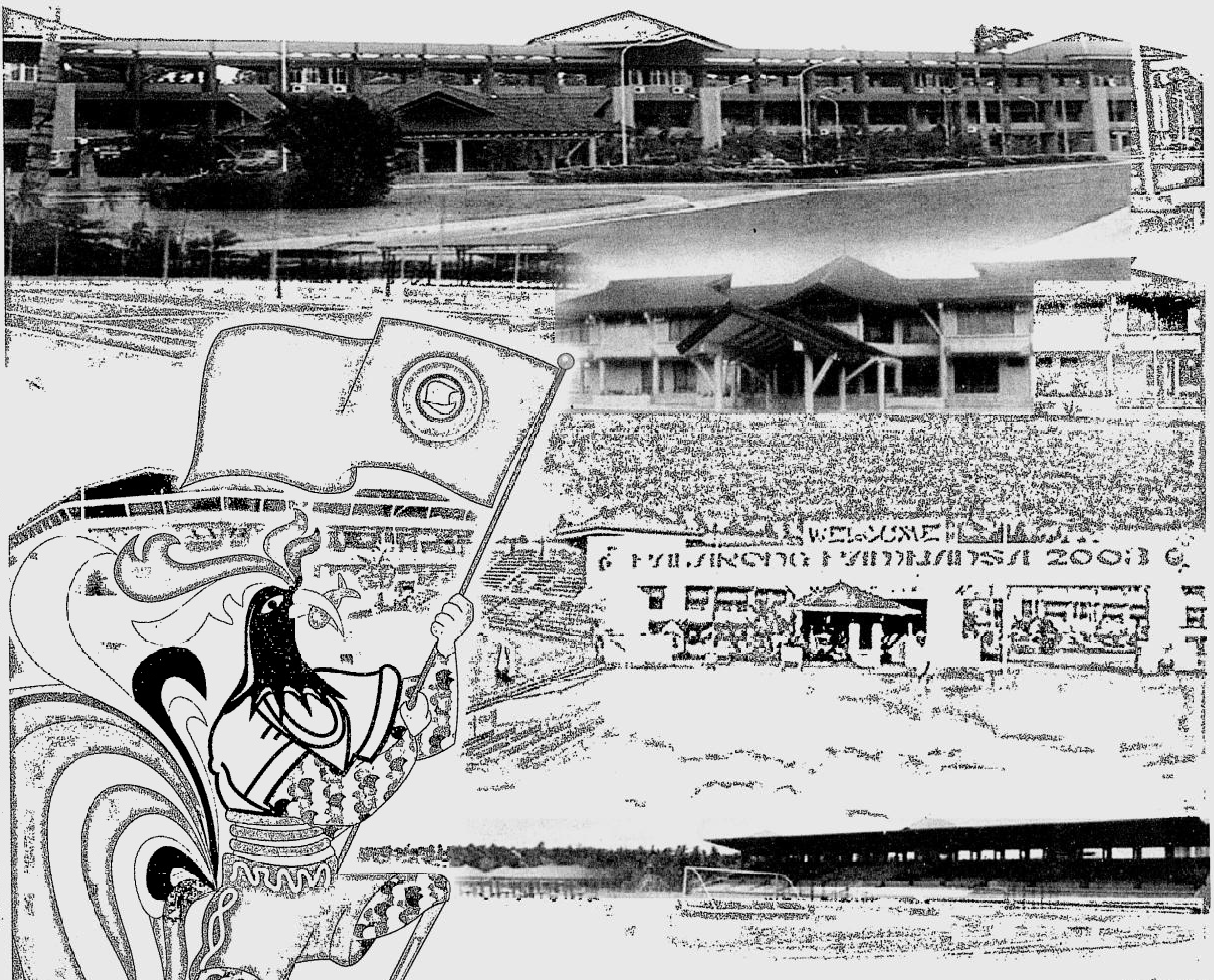
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7% of electorate sold their votes, study says

By Martin P. Marfil

AN ESTIMATED three million voters, or seven percent of the country's electorate, accepted money from candidates in the barangay elections of 2002, according to a study conducted by a United States-based group.

The study, conducted by Frederic Charles Schaffer of the Center of International Studies of Massachusetts, also showed that one out of every 10 Filipinos was offered cash or material goods to vote for a particular candidate in the May 2001 national elections and that seven out of every 10 accepted what was offered.

The results of the study were released yesterday at a forum on voter education at the Ateneo Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs.

Other key survey results showed that those "most likely" to try and buy votes were mayors, city council members, congressmen and governors.

The study showed that those most likely to accept an offer of money were residents of Mindanao at 85 percent, followed by the Visayas at 64 percent, Metro Manila at 40 percent and the rest of Luzon at 21 percent.

The study showed, however, that in certain areas, buying votes did not ensure that the votes would be cast in the buying candidate's favor.

Only 56 percent of Visayans and 76 percent of Mindanaoans who accepted money voted for the candidates who gave them the money.

However, vote-buying in Luzon could be said to be effective as 100 percent of voters who accepted money voted for the candidates who gave it to them.

A forum participant noted that another group was conducting a study whose initial results showed that Filipinos vote for the "more popular" candidate.

Worse, Ramon Casiple said, the trend appears to be continuing. He said these findings would be validated in November when the study is finalized.

Forum participants said this only showed that more voter education was needed.

Spokesperson Ferdinand Rafanan of the Commission on Elections conceded that the Schaffer study tended to show up the poll body as having done nothing to educate voters.

Rafanan, a new appointee, said nothing had been done by Comelec's education and information division (EID) about voter education.

He pointed out that Republic Act No. 9006 states that voter education must be continuing and should be part of the school curriculum.

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Laguna needs help with 'eco' program

THE PROVINCE of Laguna, once a primarily rural area, is banking on assistance from foreign experts and a local non-government organization to beef up its environment management program.

Most of Laguna's 29 towns and one city are facing serious environmental problems arising from heavy industrialization and commercialization, according to provincial environment and natural resource officer Guillermo Trinidad.

As many as 90 percent of the towns have set up environment management systems, but these need to be enhanced for efficiency and sustainability, he said.

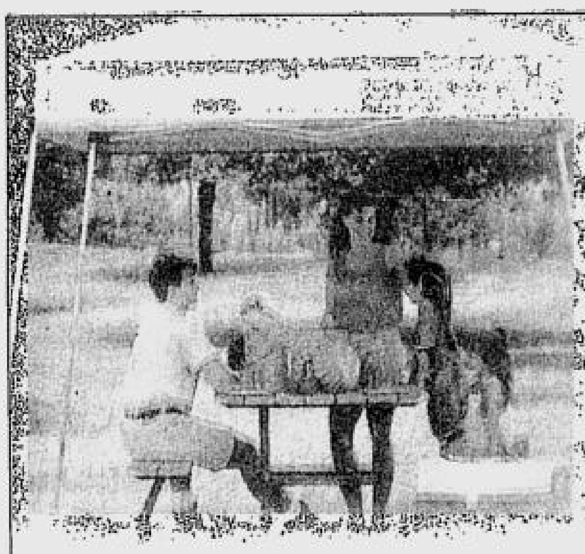
The Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) has offered a P30-million systems enhancement and training assistance program, while a local group, Global Linkages, is raising environmental awareness in the schools.

In an interview at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Trinidad noted the "inadequate capability" of local government units to plan development in rural and agricultural communities.

He said Laguna needed technical assistance in environmental protection and natural resource management "to make sure that agro-industrial development is environment-friendly."

According to Trinidad, Sida is offering assistance to improve each of the towns' environment management systems and to train local environment officers.

Norman Bordadora



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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Iran admits it hid nuclear program from UN watchdog

VIENNA—Iran acknowledged on Thursday having been "discreet" about its nuclear program in the past but said it had no more secrets after giving the United Nations what it called a full declaration of all its nuclear activities.

The head of the UN International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Mohamed ElBaradei, said Iran's ambassador to the IAEA, Ali Akbar Salehi, delivered the declaration eight days ahead of an IAEA deadline for Iran to prove it has no secret atomic weapons programme as Washington alleges.

"I was assured that the report I got today is a comprehensive and accurate declaration," ElBaradei said.

"It is a large set of documents. We obviously have to start our verification activities (but) it is going to take us time to go through all these documents and reconstruct the full history of the program," he said.

Salehi declined to give any details about the declaration, a stack of papers in a binder about one and half inches thick.

"We have submitted a report that fully discloses our past activities, peaceful activities, in the nuclear field," he said.

However, he said the secretive nature of some of Iran's activities—which has fueled US concerns that Iran is covertly developing an atomic weapon—was a natural response to sanctions unfairly imposed on the Islamic republic.

"The important thing to note is that Iran had to do some of its activities very discreetly because of the sanctions that have been imposed on Iran for the past 25 years," Salehi said, adding that they were "legal activities."

"Nevertheless (Iran) had to do them discreetly," he said.

Submission of the report meets a key demand of the Vienna-based IAEA, which set the Oct. 31 deadline.

"I hope we will come to the conclusion that we have seen all past nuclear activities in Iran and that all materials and activities in Iran are under (IAEA) safeguards," ElBaradei said.

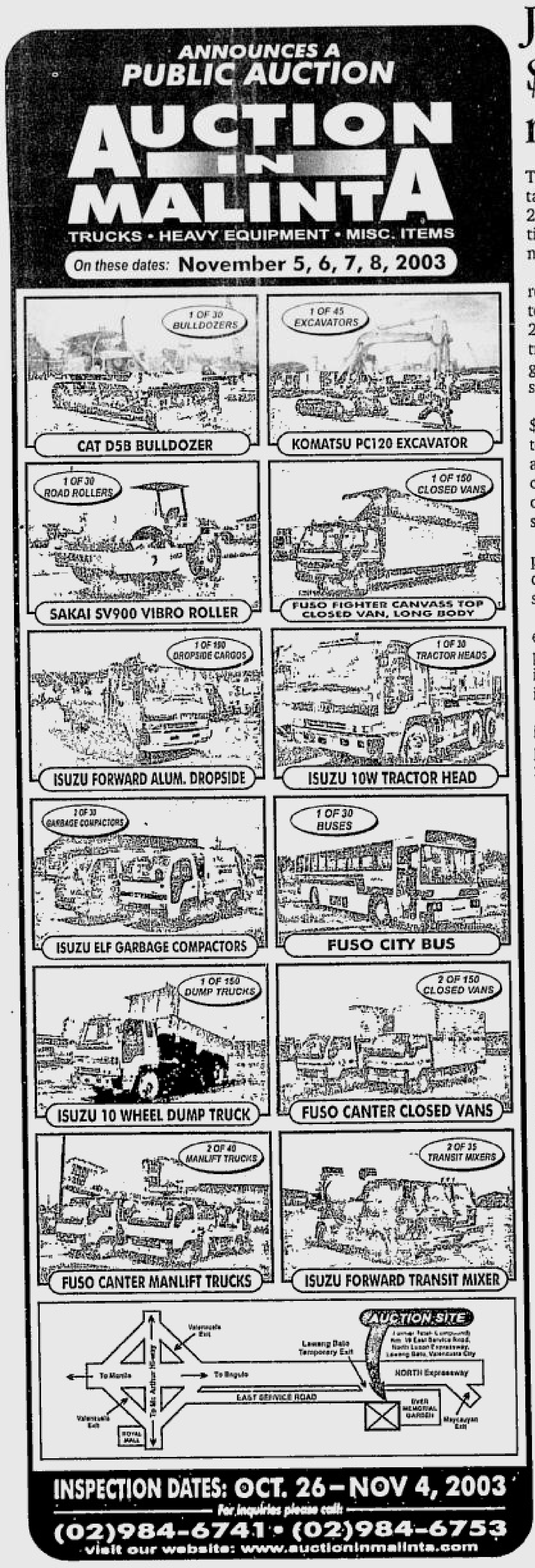
The IAEA is particularly keen to have details about the origin of uranium enrichment centrifuge parts, which Iran says it bought on the black market and blames for contaminating two Iranian sites where the IAEA found traces of bomb-grade uranium.

"We should know the origin of materials and equipment to verify the Iranian statement that this (enriched uranium) was the result of contamination," ElBaradei said.

But Salehi indicated this information was not there, as Reuters reported previously, saying it may be impossible to trace their origins as the parts were bought through "intermediaries."

Salehi reiterated his country's commitment to a deal brokered by the foreign ministers of Britain, France and Germany in Tehran on Tuesday, under which Iran pledged to accept tougher IAEA inspections and suspend its uranium enrichment activities. *Reuters*

ANYONE HERE NAMED SCARLETT?
Young Brazilian women of the Fraternity of American Descendants eat during a Sunday brunch in Santa Barbara D'Oeste, Sept. 14. At least four times a year, the group whose ancestors were Confederate immigrants to Brazil, get together at their cemetery to trade gossip, celebrate their roots and eat typically Southern food like fried chicken and biscuits. REUTERS



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Israel defies US road map, plans 323 new homes in W. Bank

JERUSALEM—Israel published tenders on Thursday for building hundreds of new homes in Jewish settlements in the West Bank, the second time in a month it has defied a US-backed peace plan on this issue.

The tender, for 323 homes in two settlements, follows plans to build more than 600 new homes in Jewish settlements unveiled three weeks ago to international and Palestinian condemnation.

A Housing Ministry official said tenders had been announced for building 143 new apartments in the Karnei Shomron settlement in the northern West Bank and 180 in Givat Zeev near Jerusalem.

The US-backed peace "road map," intended to end three years of violence, freezes Jewish settlement "activity." Palestinians and world leaders say this means a halt to all building at settlements, but Israel challenges this.

"All legal tenders within existing communities are not included in the 'road map' according to our interpretation and our understanding," a senior Israeli official said.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat condemned the tenders as well as Israel's decision on Wednesday to press on with construction of a barrier in the West Bank despite a United Nations resolution demanding it be torn down.

Urging the United States to intervene to stop construction of the barrier and the new homes, he added: "Settlements and walls are the number one obstacle to peace."

US state department spokesperson Adam Ereli said: "We have made our policy clear, which is that under the road map Israel has made a commitment to stop settlement activity, and sticking to that commitment is important."

The settlement monitoring group Peace Now said the government had published 1,627 tenders for new homes in the settlements this year. It accused Israel of paying lip service to the road map but pressing on with building at settlements.

The YESHA council, which represents the about 230,000 settlers in nearly 150 settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, dismissed the criticism and said the settlers were "righteous, moral and will never be removed."

The international community regards settlements on occupied land seized in the 1967 Middle East war as illegal under international law. Israel disputes this.

The road map has stalled as Israel has pressed on with building at settlements and attacks on militants it says the Palestinian Authority should rein in, and the militants have staged new suicide bombings in their uprising for statehood.

An Israeli military tribunal on Thursday sentenced a woman from the Islamic movement Hamas to 16 consecutive life terms in jail for assisting a man who killed 15 people in a suicide bombing at the Sbarro restaurant in Jerusalem in August 2001.

She drove him to the attack by car and had placed a bomb at a supermarket in Jerusalem a week earlier in an attack which caused no serious injuries, the tribunal said.

Israeli media said soldiers shot dead a Palestinian gunmen who shot at an army convoy in the Gaza Strip on Thursday evening, lightly wounding two people. *Reuters*

Japan vows $5B for Iraq rebuilding

TOKYO—Japan will extend a total of $5 billion in aid for 2004-2007 to help with the reconstruction of Iraq, the Japanese foreign ministry said Friday.

The Japanese government already said last week it would extend $1.5 billion in grants for 2004 to help the war-torn country in such areas as electric power generation, education, water supplies and public health.

The fresh commitment of up to $3.5 billion, basically in low-interest official loans, will also be announced at an international conference under way in Madrid on donations to Iraq, the ministry said in a statement.

It will focus on infrastructure projects including telecommunications and transportation, the statement said.

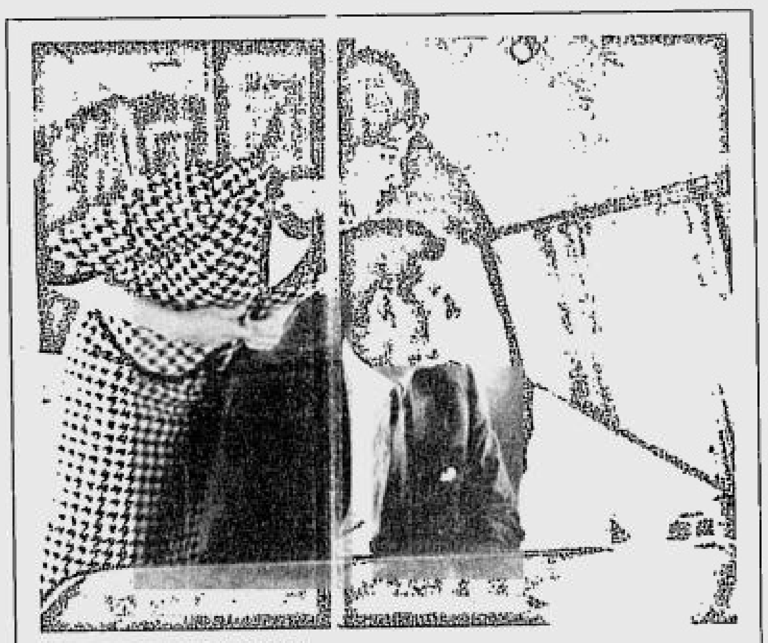
"The reconstruction of Iraq is extremely important for the Iraqi people and for peace and stability in the Middle East region and the international community," it said.

"It is directly linked to national interests of our country which depends on the Middle East region for nearly 90 percent of its oil resources (needs)," the statement said.

Meanwhile, the government's top spokesperson said the Madrid donor conference may end up with pledges of some $30 billion, far short of the $55 billion seen necessary for four years.

"I understand at the moment that they represent as much $30 billion," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuo Fukuda said, without revealing the source of his information.

"Even though the target is not reached this time, we need not say that there is a problem. The estimated amount of pledges is a result in itself," Fukuda told a regular news a briefing. *AFP*



BEFORE CAMELOT
This photo of Jacqueline Kennedy and John F. Kennedy when he was still a senator in 1960 is among those in "Remembering Jack: Intimate and Unseen Photographs of the Kennedys," by JFK's personal photographer, Jacques Lowe. AP

US Senate votes to end Cuba ban

WASHINGTON—The US Senate voted on Thursday for the first time to end a four-decade US ban on travel to Cuba, despite President George W. Bush's veto threat.

The measure, passed 59-36, would withhold funds to enforce the travel ban, effectively ending restrictions on US citizens' travel to Cuba.

The House of Representatives approved the amendment 227 to 188 in September.

Both chambers of Congress are controlled by Bush's Republican party, but the president has threatened to veto the proposal.

Earlier this month, Bush asked the Treasury Department to tighten enforcement of the travel ban.

"This vote today in the Senate, after the House, sends a very strong message that the American people don't want their right to travel to be restricted," Sen. Byron Dorgan told reporters.

He said Bush was defending the travel ban to appease the influential Cuban exile community in Florida, which vehemently opposes Cuban leader Fidel Castro and strongly supports the ban.

"The embargo helps Castro. He can blame the US for its problems," said the North Dakota Democrat, warning that Bush would find it difficult to veto a measure passed by large majorities in both chambers of Congress.

Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska said, "It does not serve US interests to isolate ourselves from the people of Cuba." *AFP*

46 miners trapped in flooded Russian mine

MOSCOW—Rescuers were frantically trying to reach 46 trapped miners in southern Russia Friday as freezing water slowly filled the tunnels of their coal mine some 700 meters underground.

Trucks dumped concrete slabs, metal and rocks into the main shaft of the Zapadnaya mine in the Rostov region to try and stop icy water from filling any more of its tunnels, regional officials told Russian television.

At the same time, military rescue workers looked for ways to bore tunnels to the trapped men from neighboring mines, news agencies reported.

A group of rescu[illegible], including divers, flew out from Moscow to the site near the town of Novoshakhtinsk, where nearly 200 personnel were already working.

But nearly 20 hours after water first gushed into the mine, where 71 miners were working inside, chances of rescuing the 46 men still trapped lessened by the minute

Authorities still had not established contact with the men and could only guess is they were still alive and if so, where in the mine they had taken shelter.

"We have established the approximate place of where the people are," Sergei Nazarov, deputy governor of the Rostov region, told NTV television. "But I emphasize that it's only approximate."

Nazarov said it could take a day to fill the mine's main shaft with debris to stop more water getting in and as many as two days to bore tunnels from neighboring mines.

The two mines closest to Zapadnaya are about 70 and 60 meters away, news agencies reported.

Meanwhile authorities could only guess how much air the miners trapped inside still had.

The accident occurred at 5 p.m. on Thursday, with authorities speculating that an underground lake, which had formed above the mine, broke through, news reports said. *AFP*

Polar ice cap melting at alarming rate, says Nasa

WASHINGTON—The polar ice cap is melting at an alarming rate due to global warming, according to Nasa scientists, with satellite images showing the ice cap has been shrinking by 10 percent per decade over the past quarter century.

"It is happening now. We cannot afford to wait a long period of time for technological solutions," said David Rind of Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York.

"Change is in the air—literally," he told a press conference here Thursday.

By means of a special satellite launched last year to measure the thickness of the polar ice cap, Nasa has confirmed that part of the Arctic Ocean that remains frozen all year round shrank at a rate of 10 percent per decade since 1980, Nasa researcher Josefino Comiso said.

"The extent of Arctic sea ice that remains frozen all year reached record lows in 2002 and 2003," he added.

The polar ice cap expands in winter and contracts in spring and summer. The part of the ice cap that never melts, even in the warmest summers, is called the "perennial sea ice."

The oceans and land masses surrounding the Arctic Ocean have warmed one degree Celsius (two degrees Fahrenheit) during the past decade, scientists said.

Researchers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are worried because global warming speeds up as the ice cap melts, forming a vicious cycle.

"Snow and sea-ice are highly reflective because they are white;" Comiso said.

"Most of the sun's energy is simply reflected back to space. With retraction of the ice cover, that means that less of surface is covered by this highly reflective snow and sea ice, and so more energy has been absorbed and the climate warms."

The warming trend has brought spectacular consequences. US and Canadian scientists reported in September that the largest ice shelf in the Arctic off Canada's coast has broken up due to climate change and could endanger shipping and drilling platforms in the Beaufort Sea.

The Ward Hunt Ice Shelf had been in place on the north coast of Ellesmere Island in Canada's Nunavut territory for at least 3,000 years.

"Small changes in ice could mean big impacts on the water cycle and ultimately the global climate," warned Nasa.

The changes could alter ocean currents, the distribution of fish populations and precipitation averages over a wide area.

"One activity in the north is hunting of marine animals using sea-ice as a platform. When sea-ice retreats, it affects the communities up there," said University of Washington oceanographer Michael Seteele.

"The Arctic is changing rapidly. We should be concerned in the sense we need to simply recognize the change is here, is occurring and we may have to adapt to it," University of Colorado researcher Mark Serreze told reporters.

"Why the increase in global temperature?" he asked. *AFP*

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Clinton says deal cuts AIDS drugs prices by half

NEW YORK—Four generic drug companies on Thursday promised to make drugs available to millions of people in African and Caribbean nations suffering with HIV and AIDS at about half the current price.

Former President Bill Clinton, whose foundation has been pressing for cheaper treatments, said the more affordable drugs could help millions get a longer lease on life.

"There are five to six million people in the developing world with AIDS and in urgent need for the drugs," Clinton told reporters at his Harlem office. "Only 200,000 to 300,000 are receiving treatment. The rest are simply being left to die."

Partnering with three firms in India and South Africa's largest generic drug company, Clinton said antiretroviral drugs will be offered at $140 per person a year, "almost half the current price of inexpensive commonly used drugs."

Human rights groups lauded the move.

"For AIDS treatment rates in poor countries to go up, prices have to come down. Today's announcement marks a crucial breakthrough in the AIDS emergency," said Bono, human rights activist and lead singer of rock band U2.

The William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation HIV/AIDS Initiative said the plan would get the cheaper drugs to about two million people by 2008. Worldwide, an estimated 42 million people suffer from HIV and AIDS.

Chopping the price of drugs in half is a huge issue for poor African countries, where many people survive on as little as $300 a year. *Reuters*

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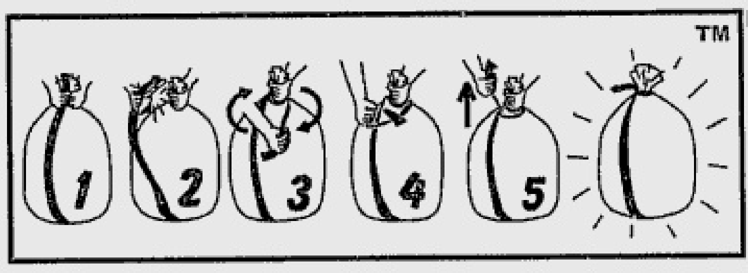

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A LARGE photo of former first lady Madame Chiang Kai-shek hangs behind Fang Chih-yi, granddaughter-in-law of Madame Chiang, who sobs before a press conference announcing her death. AFP

Chiang Kai-shek's widow dies in New York at 106

By Tiffany Wu

TAIPEI—Madame Chiang Kai-shek, once the most powerful woman in China, has died in her sleep aged 106 in her home in New York, finally bringing down the curtain on one of the most turbulent chapters of Chinese history.

Famed as much for her iron will as for her beauty, Madame Chiang lived through a century of turmoil in China and was feared for decades as a formidable force behind her husband, Chinese Nationalist Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

"She was probably the greatest lady in modern Chinese history," Andrew Hsia, director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, said by phone Friday.

"As an old lady of 104 or 105, she was marvellous, very articulate. She recognized people, so I was impressed," said Hsia, who had met the former first lady twice in recent years.

Hsia said Madame Chiang died on Thursday evening. "We were told that she passed away very peacefully while she was resting."

A devout Christian educated at the elite Wellesley College in Massachusetts, she was born Soong May-ling in southern China and married Chiang Kai-shek in 1927, as he was crushing warlord armies to unify China under Nationalist rule.

She became her husband's spokesperson and China's voice to the outside world, charming the American public with her impeccable English, spoken with a southern US accent, elegant silk dresses and extravagant jewelry.

During World War Two, Madame Chiang brought the US congress to its feet with a passionate appeal for anti-Japanese aid. Her political adeptness as a roving ambassador for the war-ravaged country led the foreign press to dub her "the brains of China."

She helped establish the Nationalist air force and reached the pinnacle of her power in the late 1930s and early 1940s, when she influenced policy and strategy as Nationalist forces battled Japanese occupation troops.

In 1949, the Nationalists lost China after a bitter civil war with the communists and fled to Taiwan.

Her influence only began to fade with Chiang Kai-shek's death in 1975. She never bore a child for Chiang and the family dynasty's grip on Taiwan ended with the death in 1988 of his son from a previous marriage, president Chiang Ching-kuo.

"The Madame fought a beautiful battle and has been received by heaven," said Chiang Fang Chih-yi, wife of Chiang Kai-shek's grandson, at an emotional news conference in Taipei.

The weeping Chiang Fang praised the former first lady's humanitarian work, her founding of relief organizations and schools for orphans, and promotion of women's rights.

Those who have met her say Madame Chiang's charisma was matched only by her toughness. At a White House dinner with President Franklin Roosevelt she was asked about a troublesome US union leader and how her government would deal with him.

The diminutive Madame Chiang silently drew a delicate finger across her throat.

She stole the limelight from her husband at the World War Two Cairo conference attended by Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, intervening frequently with: "If you allow me, I shall put before you the generalissimo's true thoughts."

During her final years in Taiwan, Madame Chiang retained the allegiance of the aging military men and Nationalist old guard who served her husband.

Taiwan newspapers said she made a last bid to assert her power in 1988 with an unsuccessful, behind-the-scenes attempt to block the nomination of then-president Lee Teng-hui as Nationalist Party chair.

Democratic reforms that swept Taiwan from the late 1980s onward erased all but the last vestiges of her influence.

Still officially revered but cut off from real power, Madame Chiang left Taiwan in September 1991 for a "long-term rest" at a family estate in New York. She returned to the island briefly in 1994 when her favorite niece died in Taipei.

Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian said in a statement he was saddened by her death and offered his condolences. *Reuters*

Last-ever Concorde flight

NEW YORK—The last-ever commercial Concorde flight carrying fare-paying passengers arrived Thursday in New York, bringing down the curtain on an era of supersonic trans-Atlantic travel for the rich and famous.

British Airways Flight BA001, touched down at John F. Kennedy International airport at 5:40 p.m., three hours and 20 minutes after leaving London's Heath-row airport.

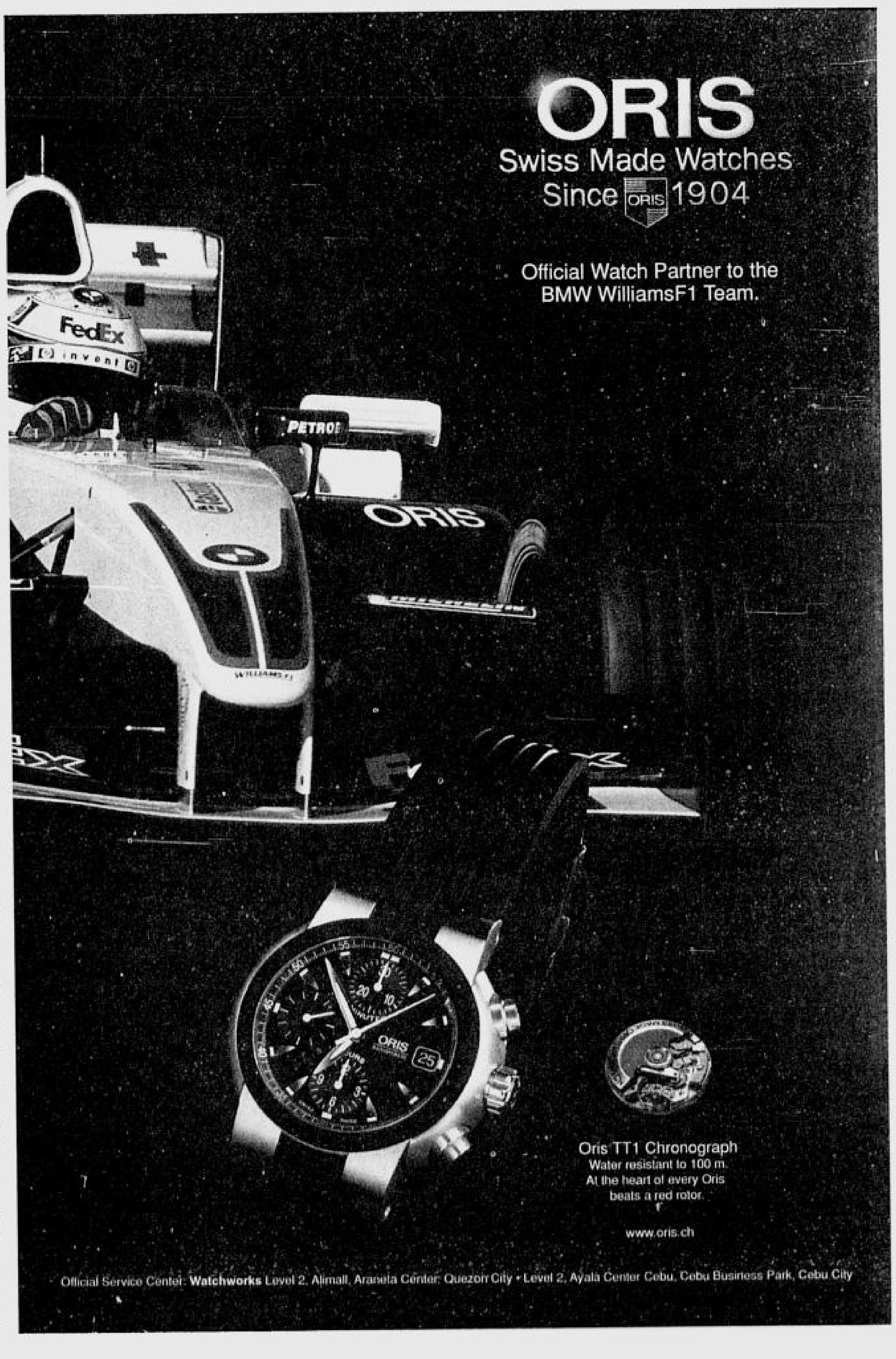
The needle-nosed icon will return to London on Friday with a passenger roster of invited VIPs.

Two similar show flights—packed with celebrities, BA staff and competition winners—will operate the same day on different routes with all three planes touching down at Heathrow around 4 p.m.

Flight BA002, the return leg from New York, will be the final Concorde to land, marking the end for what is regarded as one of the greatest technological feats of the 20th century.

But not everyone will be teary-eyed as the airliner flies out of New York for the last time.

"The Concorde was like a daily insult to anybody living near the airport," said Allan Greene, president of Sane Aviation For Everyone. *AFP*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Messages

MY warmest greetings to the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) and guests on the Grand Relaunch of the new PTA.

As the infrastructure arm of the Department of Tourism tasked with developing tourist zones, the PTA plays a central role in pushing forward our thrust for Philippine tourism. Through the years, the PTA has been relied upon to enhance existing tourist zones areas and to pioneer development in sites not yet reached by private enterprise.

This event, titled "Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo", manifests your agency's commitment to further contribute to the revitalization of this promising industry. Your efforts to encourage greater participation in tourism endeavors are commendable. Indeed, the active involvement of all stakeholders is the key to a rejuvenated and dynamic travel industry.

I wish the success of this event. May you continue to initiate projects in line with our Administration's program of revitalizing the Philippine tourism industry.

Mabuhay kayo!

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

IT IS with great pride that I extend my warmest greetings to the Philippine Tourism Authority on its grand launching of its new innovative projects and programs, and the declaration of Clamshell 2 as the New Cultural Shelter of the Philippines on October 25, 2003 at Intramuros, Manila.

Working under the theme, "Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo" (PTA), PTA endeavors to promote the Philippines' quest to be the premium tourist destination both for the international and local visitors.

Under the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, travel and tourism has been identified as a major engine for socioeconomic development. The government, in collaboration with the private sector, is putting more energy and resources to entice more visitors to the Philippines.

For its part, the Department of Tourism (DOT) has initiated programs and projects, which all led up to the Visit Philippines 2003, a DOT's campaign fully endorsed by the World Tourism Organization- the biggest policy-making body for global travel and tourism. This campaign integrates all tourism marketing communication resources to increase visitor-arrivals to our country. It seeks to build a strong partnership with multisectoral entities, local travel trade and the mass media to mount well-planned and sustained marketing programs.

This year, the whole world's attention is focused on the best our country has to offer as a unique and multi-faceted business and travel destination. With Visit Philippines 2003 in full swing, we invite people from all over the world to come and visit our country where they can explore the wealth of wonders of the Philippines' more than 7,100 islands and experience the Filipino way of celebrating our rich cultural heritage and festive spirit.

Congratulations to the PTA for actively working with us on the immense opportunities of the travel and tourism industry, especially for the Visit Philippines 2003 onwards.

Mabuhay!

RICHARD J. GORDON
Secretary of Tourism

GREETINGS from the Philippine Tourism Authority

The Philippine Tourism Authority, mandated to pioneer tourism development in the Philippines, is envisioned to be a self-sustaining government organization and a catalyst for excellence in tourism development, committed to effectively and efficiently implement sustainable tourism development programs and projects.

On its 30th year of operations and in line with its thrust, the Authority will embark on launching its new and innovative, highly creative and non-traditional programs and projects, bolstering the country's WOW Philippines programs in support of Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's establishment of a Strong Republic.

Strengthened by a renewed spirit that espouses "Ang Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo", the authority offers its "Boosting Eco-Socio Tourism" programs that will actively encourage every Filipino to play a dynamic role in promoting foreign and domestic tourism.

With the stewardship of Her Excellency Madame President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, the PTA shall continue to provide our countrymen with the necessary tourism infrastructure programs that are not only environmentally responsible but more importantly poverty alleviating. The Authority dedicates itself to the fulfillment of its mandate, the successful management of the Republic's various tourism establishments, and comprehensive development of tourism's backbone, its human resources.

May the grace and mercy of God be with us all!

Ang Pilipino sa Turismo at Aktibo, Mabuhay and Pilipino, Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!

In service to God, country and the Filipino people.

ROBERTO DEAN S. BARBERS
General Manager and Chief
Executive Officer
Philippine Tourism Authority

Stop, look and visit thes

THE NEXT time you or your family and friends are on the lookout for new places to visit for a vacation, you don't have to look very far and spend those hard-earned pesos on expensive trips. That's because your gateway to exciting destinations is right within your homeland.

Aside from the country's popular scenic sites and tourist spots, this land still has a lot to offer to people who love discovery and adventure in nature. Having 7,107 islands must be truly a challenge for someone who enjoys finding out something new in some new places.

In line with the government's active campaign to promote the country as a tourist haven in the Southeast Asian region, the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) on its part, continues to support this drive by encouraging the people to visit sites and destinations that offer better alternative to usual vacation spots.

Over 11 destinations ranging from diving and beach resorts, ecological parks, picnic woods, golf courses and hotels, are maintained by PTA and offer best value for money because of their affordable tour packages.

Banaue Hotel and Youth Hostel - For urbanites who love the cool and crisp climate up north, this standard class hotel in Banaue, Ifugao, guarantees a comfortable dwelling while spending time in this province. It stands 4,000 feet above sea level right at the heart of the millennia-dated Banaue Rice Terraces. It is ideal for nature lovers and adventurous tourists

The hotel has fully carpeted rooms, which are well-furnished with private balconies overlooking the scenic views of the Rice Terraces. It has 43 standard and 32 de luxe rooms with recreational facilities like swimming pool and areas for indoor games.

Balicasag Island Dive Resort - Lovers of the marine world will surely love diving on Balicasag Island, which is 30-45 minutes away from the island municipality of Panglao in Bohol. The island has a total land area of 25 hectares, of which 1.5 hectares has been developed into a resort complex. PTA together with the Philippine Navy promotes underwater sports and protects a marine life sanctuary showcasing a model for marine environmental conservation, ecological preservation and tourism.

Its facilities include duplex cottages, dive shop for aqua sports gears and equipment, and recreational areas for indoor games.

MacArthur Park Beach Resort - Situated along the historic Red Beach, site of the greatest naval battles in the country, this class A resort located in Palo, Leyte, is just a stone's throw away from the MacArthur Landing Memorial.

This five-hectare property has rooms that are tastefully decorated with native materials. All rooms are air-conditioned with cable TV, private bathroom and telephones. It also has two restaurants and recreation facilities.

Club Intramuros Golf Course - The Walled City's 18-hole (par 66, 4326 yards) day and night golf course is situated along Roxas Boulevard before the Del Pan bridge on the south bank of the Pasig River. It is also adjacent to the historic Fort Santiago and surrounded by multi-story hotels and offices.

Approximately 23 hectares in land area, its sprawling landscaped grounds are trimmed with various trees and lagoons. For the non-golfers, it offers a restaurant and banquet facilities that are suitable for meetings or leisurely tete-a-tete.

San Fabian PTA Beach Resort - This class AA resort in San Fabian, Pangasinan, is a former presidential rest house located in the northernmost part of Pangasinan and lies along the coast of Lingayen Gulf. Vacationers, especially families, will find this as an ideal venue for reunion and other family events. It is also ideal for corporate events like seminars and outings.

In this 7.5-hectare property, one can find a rest house, pavilion, outdoor bathhouse and picnic grounds. An expansion of its accommodation facility in the form of hotel and hostel are located in an adjacent lot together with a swimming pool.

Tagaytay Picnic Grove - The generally cool climate of Tagaytay is one of the main reasons why people continue to flock this destination. This "special interest resort" located in Tagaytay City, Cavite overlooks the Taal Volcano and the coastal towns of Batangas. Having a rolling land area of 13.5 hectares, it offers various facilities such as accommodations, dining, function hall and picnic area. Recent additions to its facilities are cottages and a view deck with a restaurant.

Hundred Islands National Park - This National Park in Alaminos, Pangasinan covers a land area of over 1,000 hectares with 123 islands. However, only three islands have been developed for tourism, namely Governor, Quezon and Children Islands. The Governor's' Island keeps a guesthouse, which is ideal for family use. Meanwhile, the bahay kubos and mini pavilions at Children's Island are for budget travelers. Quezon Island, which is for picnickers and campers, has a pavilion complete with picnic tables.

Paskuhan Village - The Philippine Christmas Village sits on a 9.3-hectare property in San Fernando, Pampanga. It offers two basic features: a tourism venue where Christmas is celebrated the whole year and a theme park north of Manila featuring the "Gardens of the World".

Aside from the sights of Christmas and nature, visitors can shop from among the concessionaires in the village offering Christmas and other novelty items. The village also hosts a variety of events like exhibits, competitions, trade fairs and variety shows.

Mt. Arayat Ecological Park - Referred to as "Little Baguio" by former president Manuel L. Quezon, the 3,700-ft. Mt. Arayat is home to Mariang Sinukuan - the fabled mountain denizen and Pampanga's most famous landmark.

Located at the foot of the legendary mountain is the popular Mt. Arayat Ecological park where people and nature meet in the splashes of abundant natural springs. Its superb natural wonders such as three spring-fed swimming pools, lagoon, campsite with a collection of flora and fauna, lush vegetation, natural rock formation and crystal clear springs are attracting local travelers to visit and enjoy its rejuvenating mountain air.

Gardens of Malasag -Softly nestled within the slopes of Cugman watershed in Cagayan de Oro City is a cultural dom
aptly called the Gardens
Village. This destination
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Experience the
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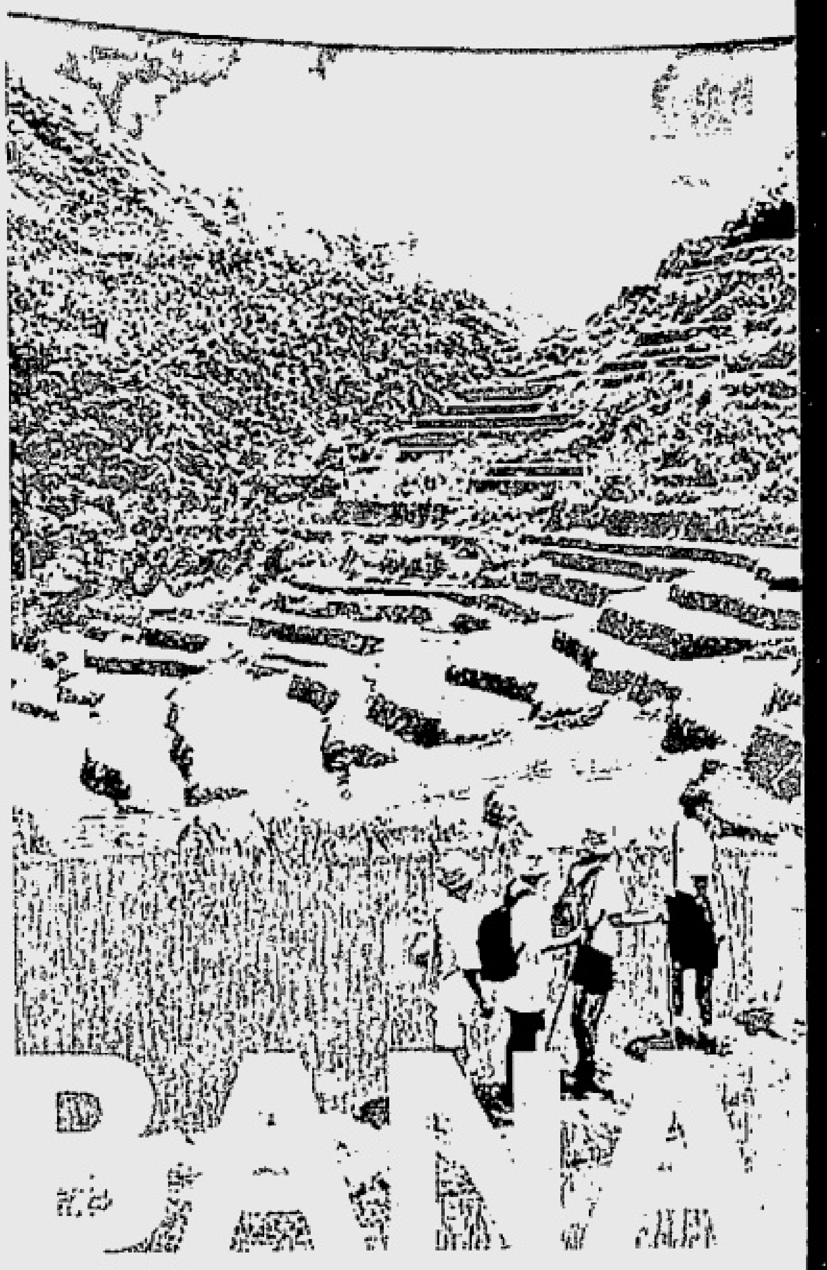
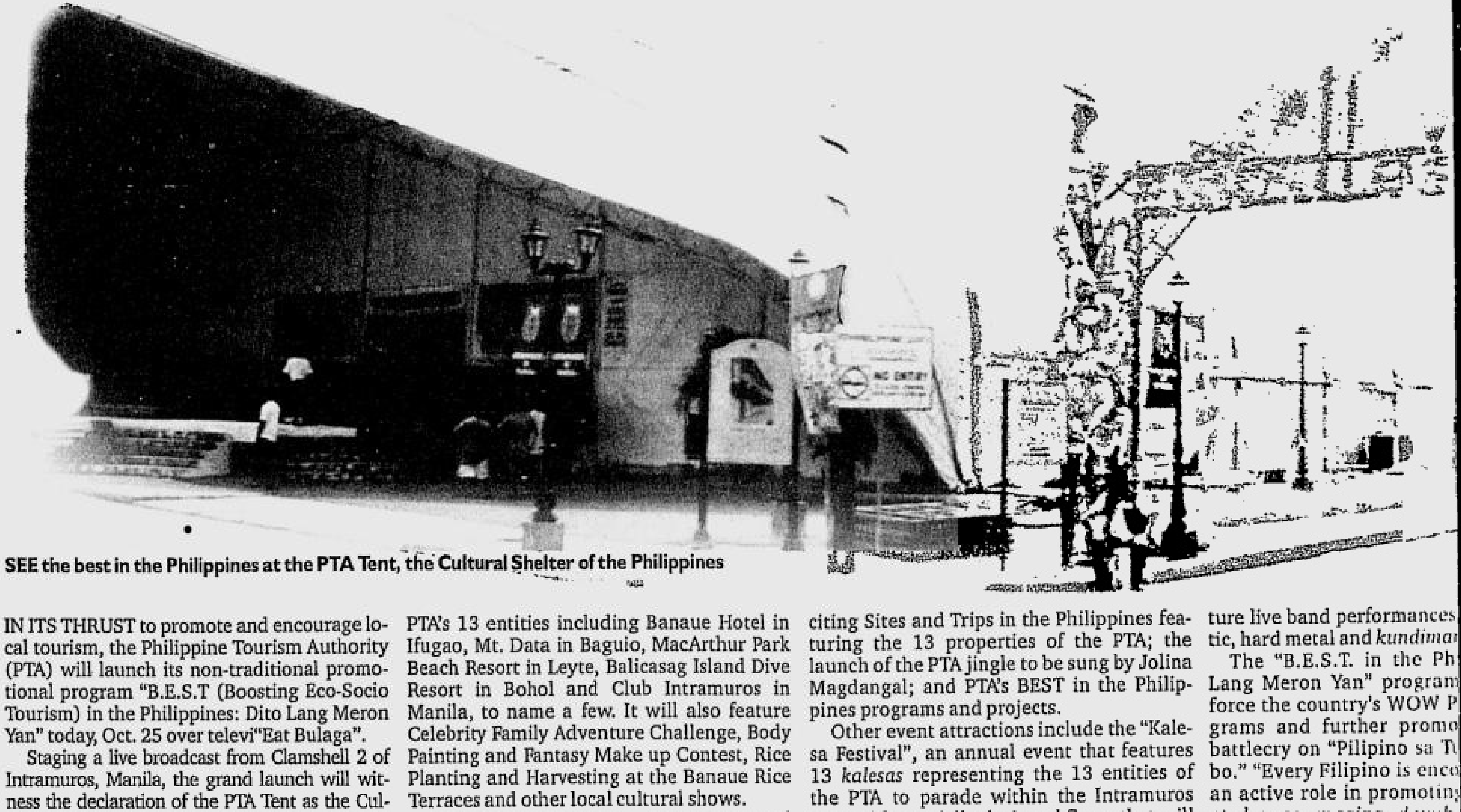


PTA's best makes a grand entrance

B.E.S.
in the Philip



SEE the best in the Philippines at the PTA Tent, the Cultural Shelter of the Philippines

IN ITS THRUST to promote and encourage local tourism, the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) will launch its non-traditional promotional program "B.E.S.T (Boosting Eco-Socio Tourism) in the Philippines: Dito Lang Meron Yan" today, Oct. 25 over televi"Eat Bulaga".

Staging a live broadcast from Clamshell 2 of Intramuros, Manila, the grand launch will witness the declaration of the PTA Tent as the Cultural Shelter of the Philippines as the newest venue for all significant cultural events.

"This event will signify PTA's bullish moves to further strengthen local tourism. Our country has a lot to offer, great sites and hospitable people, what more can you ask for?" says PTA General Manager Robert Dean Barbers.

The B.E.S.T in the Philippines program will also feature a 60-seconder AVP of the PTA's 13 entities including Banaue Hotel in Ifugao, Mt. Data in Baguio, MacArthur Park Beach Resort in Leyte, Balicasag Island Dive Resort in Bohol and Club Intramuros in Manila, to name a few. It will also feature Celebrity Family Adventure Challenge, Body Painting and Fantasy Make up Contest, Rice Planting and Harvesting at the Banaue Rice Terraces and other local cultural shows.

Aliwan Dance festival, DOT-PTA Grand Chorale and Digital Symphony, DOT Dance Troupe and Teatro Turismo, among others, will also be part of the grand celebration. Highlights of the event will include the Philippine bid for the Guinness Record for the Longest Bunting (Banderitas) in the world signifying unity in culture, race and Filipino spirit; BEST or the Beautiful and Exciting Sites and Trips in the Philippines featuring the 13 properties of the PTA; the launch of the PTA jingle to be sung by Jolina Magdangal; and PTA's BEST in the Philippines programs and projects.

Other event attractions include the "Kalesa Festival", an annual event that features 13 *kalesas* representing the 13 entities of the PTA to parade within the Intramuros area with specially designed floats that will compete for various awards. "The Wish Kong Bakasyunan Letter Writing Contest," which is open to all OFWs, will have an all expense-paid vacation tour to any destination of choice as a grand prize. All four streets surrounding the PTA tent will be closed for the "Grand October Best Street Party" happening on Oct. 31 which will feature live band performances
tic, hard metal and *kundima*

The "B.E.S.T. in the Ph
Lang Meron Yan" program
force the country's WOW P
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battlecry on "Pilipino sa T
bo." "Every Filipino is enco
an active role in promotin
at *huwag maging dayuh*
bayan," Barbers says.

PTA's BEST is also in p
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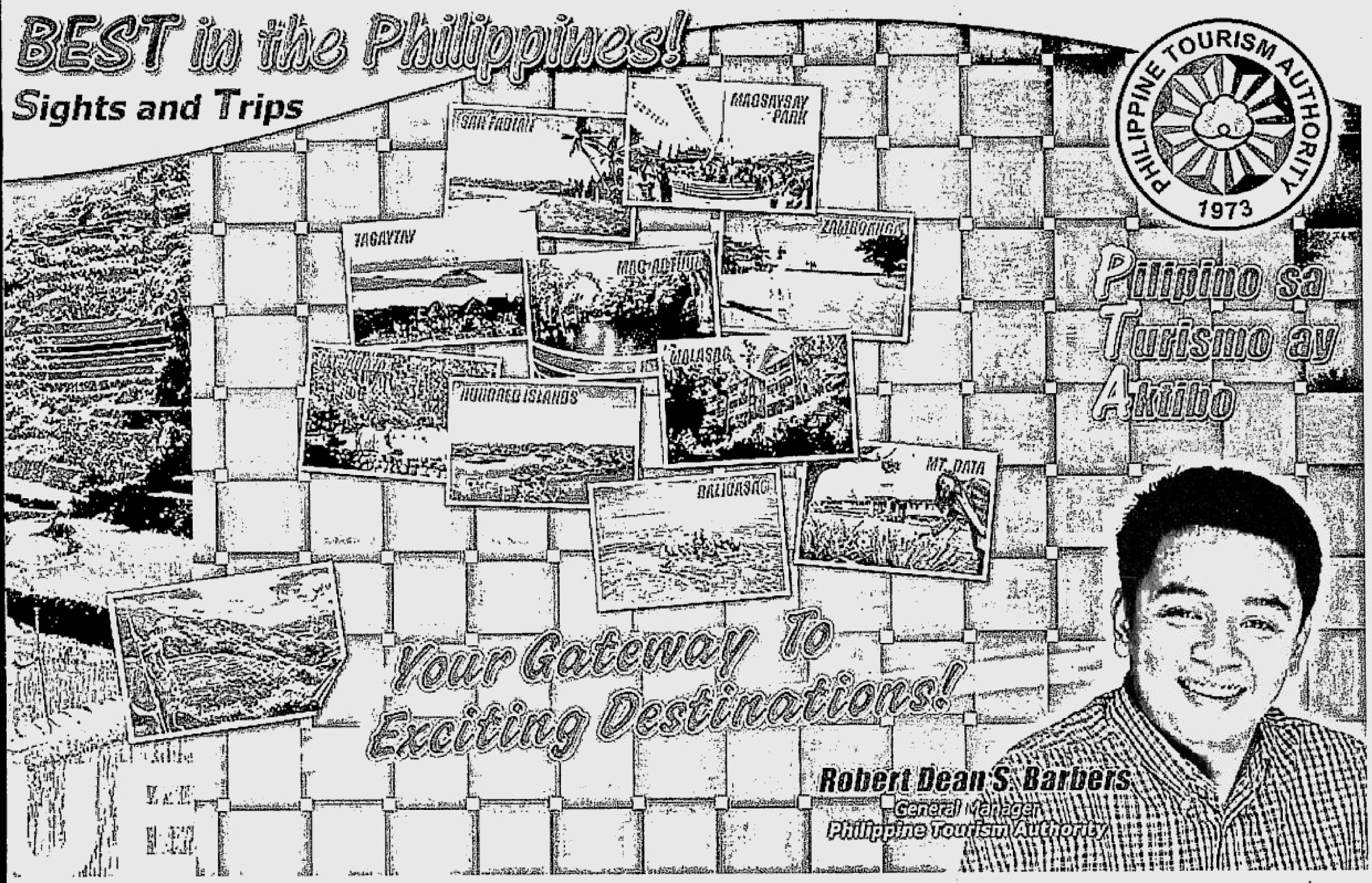
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

e great PTA getaways



ain of natural wonders of Malaag Eco-tourism gives visitors a colorful nd rich ethno-Filipino danao, which is showtifacts, flora and fauna ng.

ırk - This park in Sta. t in honor of late presiwithin the metropolis and overlooking the Davao gulf. It is an accessible, convenient and enjoyable destination for both local and foreign visitors because of the diversity of its attractions. It is also frequented by students as a venue for educational field trips and is likewise an ideal place where family and friends relax and unwind from their busy schedules because of the greenery and the seascape.

Zamboanga Golf Course and Beach Park - Golf enthusiasts in Zamboanga love to play their favorite sport in this venue. The Championship course is an 18-hole course, par 72, 6,404 yards. The front 9 holes are laid out on flat ground while the back 9 holes are over rolling terrain. Numerous varieties of trees provide demarcation for the fairways. The beach park on the other hand, is situated at the seaward fringes of the golf course, which occupies a stretch of about one km. and is dotted with picnic sheds and tables.

Besides these 11 exciting destinations, PTA is also involved in two major special projects. It has embarked on the Boracay Environmental Infrastructure Project to preserve and enhance Boracay island's environment. This initiative also endeavors to protect the status of the island as a tourist and marine zone areas. Aside from upgrading the quality of tourism-related services, the project will also improve the quality of life of Boracay's local inhabitants.

The second project is the Luneta Boardwalk where it positions Luneta as a world-class tourist center that will further boost foreign and domestic tourism, at the same time preserve Manila Bay. Now, the Luneta Boardwalk serves as a venue for cultural shows, street plays, art sessions, fireworks displays and other family-oriented activities. In 2002, PTA completed phase 1 of the Boardwalk Project that entailed the construction of a platform area on top of the Manila Bay waters.

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PTA Chief Vows to Make RP Asia's Diving Capital

PHILIPPINE Tourism Authority (PTA) General Manager Robert Dean Barbers is undaunted with the challenge of transforming the country to Asia's diving capital by yearend.

In a meeting with local and foreign diving resort operators, instructors and travel agencies, Barbers vowed to make the Philippines the most ideal scuba diving destination in Asia, to compete with popular diving spots in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand. He said the Philippine Commission on Sports Scuba Diving (PCSSD)-the agency which governs scuba diving activities in the country, of which he co-chairs, would initiate necessary steps in order to devise new policies and regulations that would help develop and strengthen the diving industry of the country.

Barbers promised to make good use of the P20-million fund allocation for PCSSD to perk up the diving industry and better promote the many diving spots of the country, especially those in Palawan, Balicasag, Panglao, Puerto Galera and Anilao, among others. The Philippines is a popular destination among tourists for scuba diving and various marine studies. However, abuse of marine life, pollution and illegal fishing activities continue to endanger the already fragile situation of its marine resources.

"Knowing the needs and concerns of these diving spots, diving resort operators and enthusiasts is crucial in determining which areas our help would have the most impact," he said. "Putting more teeth to policies in scuba diving activities is important to effectively implement the new set of regulations PCSSD and PTA would be drafting."

Barbers said that scuba diving is among the top tourist activities, making it a potential contributor to boost the tourism sector. Citing the aggressive efforts of the Department of Tourism (DOT) in promoting the Philippines as a tourist haven in Asia, Barbers added that investing in projects to better market the rich and diverse scuba diving spots in the country also plays a key role in achieving the goals of the DOT to attract more tourists to the country.

Several major issues and problems of the scuba diving industry were taken up in the meeting, which according to some concerned scuba diving enthusiasts are "turning off" and driving away tourists who would like to discover the country's marine life.

Among the issues raised were poor information dissemination on different diving spots in the country; illegal dynamite fishing that destroys marine life; pollution; safety and security problems of tourists; and disorganized transport system and rates. Several foreign scuba diving experts also pointed out the lack of marketing activities of some local governments to promote a diving spot, less tourist-friendly places because of the absence of maps and the need to provide training for Filipino divers to give rescue and emergency operations.

Efforts to protect and conserve the country's' marine life would be one of the topmost priorities that PCSSD and PTA need to work on, he said, aside from drumming up support from various government and private sectors to repackage the Philippines as a safe diving haven. Barbers also vowed to get support from the Congress and the executive branch to pass either a law or an executive order that would enforce the initiative of the two agencies.

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Jolina sings PTA jingle

THE FILIPINOS are an innately, musically inclined race. They love to sing and they even bond with each other through music. Music is clearly a major part of the Filipino's culture, traditions and history.

Inspired by the power of music to communicate and instill a message, the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) thought of creating a song that enjoins Filipinos to take part in promoting the beauty and treasures of the archipelago. More than anyone else, it is the people who are the best testimony to the wonders of his native land.

"Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo" gives credence to the intrinsic beauty of the country, something which some Filipinos fail to appreciate. Distinctive from other nations of the world because of its rich and diverse culture, the Philippines is a nation its people should be truly proud of. In a nutshell, the song serves as a wake-up call for all Filipinos to take out their heads from the sands of indifference and see the Philippines in a new light.

The "Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo" jingle will be launched on "Eat Bulaga", which will air live at the PTA Tent in Intramuros, Manila at 12 noon today. The PTA jingle, with lyrics by ELIJ, music applied by Jude Roldan and arranged by Jun Tamayo, will be interpreted by young actress-chanteuse Jolina Magdangal.

The jingle is just part of PTA's bullish moves to perk up the tourism industry of the Philippines. With General Manager Robert "Dean" Barbers at the helm, PTA aims to elevate the country as one of the premiere tourist destinations in the world. Barbers believes, that before anything else, it is essential to inculcate the value of appreciating one's own homeland because the solution to national progress begins with love for country.

Pilipino Sa Turismo Ay Aktibo

Refrain:
Mabuhay ang Pilipinas
Makulay ang Pilipinas
Ikaw, ako, tayo ay Pilipino
Sa Turismo'y Aktibo
Bayan, bansa nati'y binuklod
Nang kulturang mayabong
Halina, damhi't ipagbantog
Maglakbay, maghandog
Bagong Umaga lagi nang sagana
Yaman natin ay nasa atin na
Bagong bihis napakalinis
Ugnay-ugnay, pantay-pantay
Coda:
Kaya't halina, bisitahin at baybayin,
Balik-balikan ating kultura
Last:
Pilipino sa Turismo'y Aktibo

PTA on Air at Magic 89.9

The Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) recently entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Quest Broadcasting Inc., parent company of local radio station Magic 89.9 FM, as part of the grand launch and declaration of the PTA Tent as the Cultural Shelter of the Philippines as the newest venue for cultural events. Magic 89.9, as the official radio station, will promote the launching of PTA's B.E.S.T (Boosting Eco-Socio Tourism) in the Philippines: Dito Lang Meron Yan" program via radio plugs and remote broadcast together with its 14 FM Killer Bee relay stations, the sister stations of Magic 89.9. Signing the MOA are PTA general manager Robert Dean Barbers (second from left) and Magic 89.9 station manager Nelson Capulso (second from right). Also present are PTA technical assistant Benjie Lopez and Magic 89.9 special events coordinator Ronald Francisco.

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On the edge of anarchy

EDITORIAL

IN A CRASS display of political muscle, congressmen associated with the Nationalist People's Coalition on Thursday rammed through the House of Representatives an impeachment complaint against Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., accusing him of alleged anomalies in the disbursement of the Judiciary Development Fund. With 60 seats in the 226-member House, the NPC founded by business tycoon Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr., provided the bulk of the 81 signatures comprising at least a third of the House membership, clearing the way for the transmittal of the complaint to the Senate for trial.

Whatever reasons may have driven Cojuangco's party to spearhead the impeachment move, there's no longer any doubt that although the NPC is a junior partner in the majority coalition, it holds the balance of power and it is determined to get what it wants, regardless of the political consequences.

The vote to impeach followed closely the dismissal by the House committee on justice of a first complaint seeking to impeach Davide and seven other Supreme Court justices for their actions and decisions that legitimized the accession to the presidency in January 2001 of then Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Since that decision was handed down, the Court has come under relentless attacks and harassment from cohorts and lawyers of deposed President Joseph Estrada. On the other hand, Cojuangco has no reason to be happy over the Court's decision of December 2001 declaring the controversial coconut levy funds as "prima facie public funds," thereby setting back his efforts to consolidate his hold on San Miguel Corp.

The rapid sequence of the impeachment complaints follows the pattern of attacks, coming even from lawyers, who are supposed to be officers of the court, that are clearly intended to undermine the authority of the Supreme Court as the final arbiter of sensitive constitutional issues involving transfer of political power.

Davide, in his defense, has raised the fundamental issue that under the Constitution "no impeachment shall be initiated against the same official more than once within a period of one year." Whether or not the second impeachment complaint is covered by that constitutional prohibition is a critical issue fraught with explosive elements that can spark a constitutional crisis more severe than the crisis over the impeachment of Estrada in 2000.

The issue over the "initiation" of the second complaint is more important than the articles of impeachment themselves. It is the one issue that can spawn complications, leading to a damaging confrontation between the legislature and the judiciary over the question of separation of powers. If for this reason alone, this issue should be resolved immediately to avert a collision between the two most important institutions of Philippine democracy.

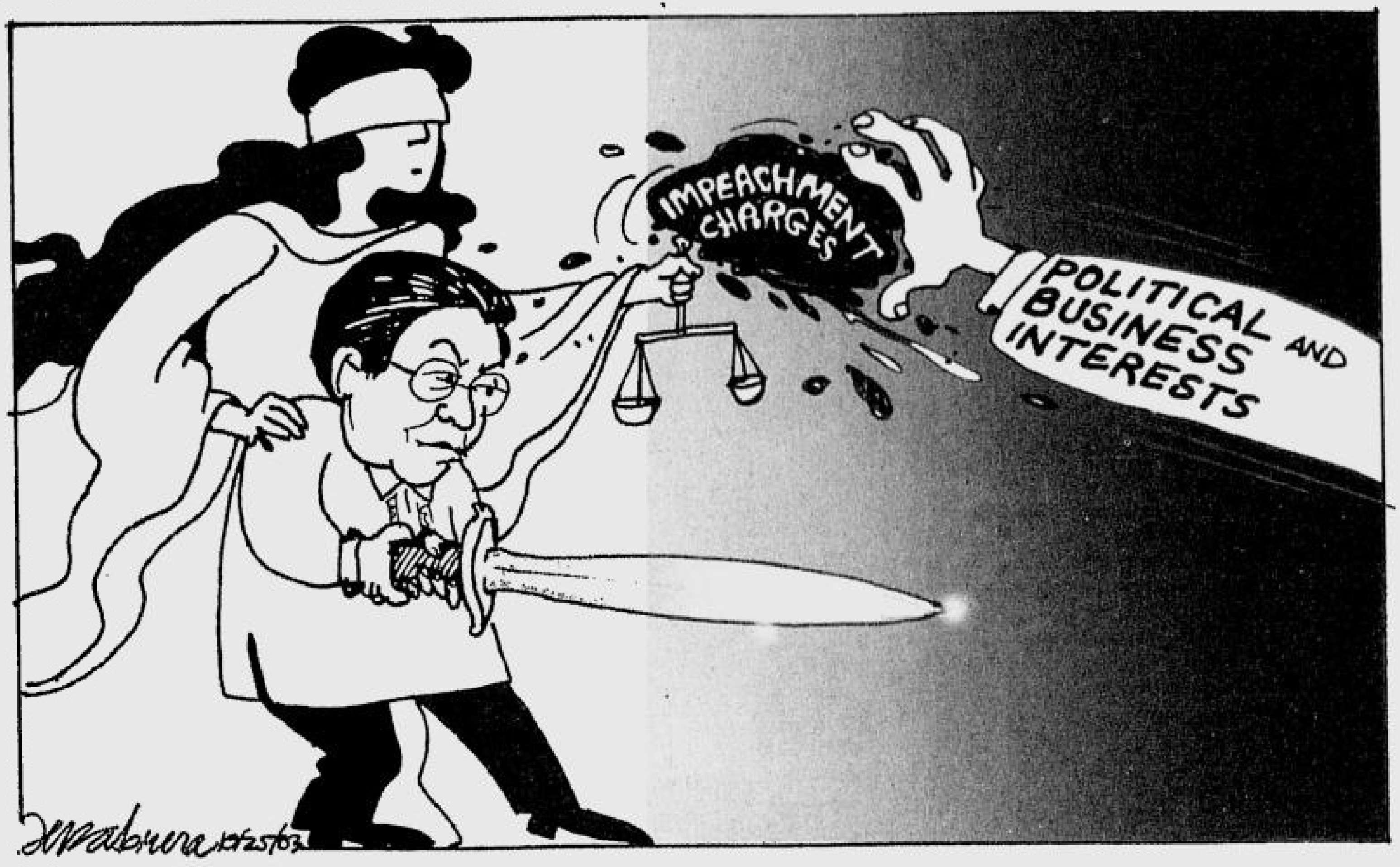
There should be no short cuts in the transmittal of the complaint to the Senate. The key issue here is whether the signatures of 81 congressmen are sufficient to endorse the complaint to the Senate and if process defined in the rules of the House was strictly followed.

We have to be concerned over the erosion of the credibility and authority of the Supreme Court. Its integrity and authority should not be attacked needlessly for narrow political gains. Impeachment is a serious political instrument to curb abuse of power either by the executive or the judiciary, and it should never be abused.

The members of Congress should remember that in all the political crises that have rocked the republic during the past three decades, the Supreme Court proved to be the bedrock of stability and legitimacy. Our constitutional system has been sorely tested by political upheavals, including coup attempts and people power revolts. Now we should ask ourselves whether this already fragile system can survive the stresses of another impeachment.

The Chief Justice can very well answer the charges made against him. In fact, he has already replied to the main allegations and pointed out that the disbursements had been audited by the Commission on Audit. It is not Congress' job to conduct an audit, especially if its sole purpose is to establish a basis for an impeachment complaint, as Davide said.

No institution can escape unscathed a bruising impeachment trial. Once the authority of the Supreme Court is demolished by an impeachment, no constitutional referee can replace it in adjudicating constitutional conflicts. The destruction of the sole arbiter of constitutional issues invites intervention by those who hold the guns. This crisis is pushing the nation to the edge of anarchy.



Impeaching the Chief Justice

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

MANY of my readers, I suppose, expect me to say something about the impeachment charges that have been filed against Chief Justice Hilario G. Davide Jr. He is my friend with whom I sat for many years on the Supreme Court, to which I also owe some loyalty as one of its former members.

Then Justice Davide was assigned to the First Division, which I presided before my retirement in 1994. I found him a cooperative and competent member whose *ponencias* were always well-reasoned although they often tended to be overlong. I did not always agree with him, or he with me, but that did not mar our mutual regard.

When the Court *en banc* sustained Lucio Tan in the "Beer na Beer" case, the only one who sided with me in dissenting from the majority decision was Justice Davide. He later voted against me in several other cases, particularly when as a practitioner, I challenged the Indigenous People's Rights Act (where the indecisive vote was 7-7), but that didn't turn me off.

In fact, I was among the many columnists who urged his promotion as Chief Justice in 1998 over certain aspirants who were for ignoring the seniority rule. Davide was particularly impressive and earned the nation's admiration when he presided with firm impartiality and knowledge of procedural rules at the Estrada impeachment trial.

And now, ironically, it is Chief Justice Davide who is standing in the dock instead of wielding the accustomed gavel of the judge.

This is by itself a strange situation because it is the first time the head of the judiciary, no less than the Chief Justice of the Philippines, is standing trial on impeachment charges filed by the House of Representatives with the Senate.

The procedure is authorized by the Constitution itself and may be enforced against the Chief Justice and other high officials exclusively listed in that document. The mere filing of impeachment charges against such officials is not *per se* a violation of the separation of powers as erroneously argued in some quarters.

The point has been raised that the second impeachment complaint against Davide must be dismissed for violation of the rule that "no impeachment proceedings shall be initiated against the same official more than once within a period of one year."

The Senate will have to decide when the impeachment proceedings are supposed to be "initiated." Is it from the time a complaint for impeachment is filed in the House of Representatives (by any member or by any citizen endorsed by any member) or when such complaint is supported by one-third of the members of that chamber and formally elevated to the Senate?

I have not yet read the complaint for impeachment, reportedly consisting of 16 pages, that understandably has not been published in full in the newspapers. I believe it should be, for the information of the people on this vital public issue. The administration of justice, which has lately received much unfavorable comment, is a matter that deserves their attention and concern.

Not having as yet read the details of the complaint, I can only write about the charges in general as reported in the mass media. The basis of the complaint is the Judiciary Development Fund, which the Chief Justice is alleged to have administered with grave abuse of discretion amounting to graft and corruption and other grounds for impeachment under the Constitution.

Among the offenses imputed to Davide are the underpayment of court personnel, the extravagance in the renovation of the Supreme Court session hall, the construction of the Supreme Court multi-purpose building and the summer cottages in Baguio, and the purchase of three luxury cars each for the justices.

Many observers feel that the Supreme Court session hall is over-decorated, but that is a matter of personal taste. The expense, however, which is alleged to involve millions of pesos, is a different issue. I have also heard whispered complaints from the rank-and-file employees about their neglect, compared to the coddling of the justices themselves.

The Baguio cottages existed long before the present Court for use by the justices during their summer sessions. I suppose the Chief Justice was merely renovating or replacing some of them that had become rundown or providing for the increased membership of the Court from only 11 to the present 15.

I hope the charge about the luxury cars for the justices is untrue because one car for each of them should be enough. I sat for more than eight years on the Court and was assigned a 1978 Mercedes-Benz that had seen better days. When I surrendered it on my retirement in 1994, it remained in the junkyard because no one was willing to accept it.

Even assuming that Chief Justice Davide may have abused his discretion on some of the allegations, such abuse, to be actionable under the law, must be *grave*. Simple misjudgment or ill-advised extravagance or frugality, as long as they do not offend the reasonable limits of discretion, should not justify the extraordinary remedy of impeachment against the head of the judiciary.

The 'wisdom' of the House

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

ANIANO Desierto, whose stint as ombudsman was fraught with controversy due to questionable actions or omissions such as his downgrading of the criminal liability of then police general Panfilo Lacson in the Kuratong Baleleng case, or the dismissal of cases against First Lady Imelda Marcos, survived two impeachment complaints against him. His savior? The present 12th Congress, which in its "wisdom" found the charges brought against him—direct bribery, failure to prosecute violators of the law—insufficient in substance (despite eyewitness testimony to the bribery charges).

Luz Tancangco, whose stint as Comelec commissioner is fraught with controversy due to questionable actions and omissions such as her advocacy of the VRIS project involving Photokina (struck down by the Supreme Court), or her penchant for making simple arithmetic mistakes and then coming to wrong conclusions, also survived impeachment complaints. Her savior: this 12th Congress, which in its "wisdom" declared that the charges were insufficient in substance, ignoring 80 pages of complaints and close to 200 pages of annexes.

Now comes Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario G. Davide Jr., whose watch has seen several important judicial reforms, and during which the number of erring judges (including justices of the Court of Appeals) who have been removed probably exceed those removed during the watch of his predecessors combined. The credibility and trust in the Davide Supreme Court is at an all-time high; and there has never been any whiff of scandal attached to his name. But in its "wisdom," this same 12th Congress has decided to impeach Davide.

In its haste to do so, it even saw fit to "shortcut" the process, not bothering to go through the committee on justice (as in the other two cases) that theoretically determines whether the charges are sufficient in substance. Instead, 81 members (or 87) of this 12th Congress have signed their names to a resolution of endorsement attached to a complaint signed by Representatives Gilberto Teodoro and William Fuentebella.

One has only to read their 16-page complaint, and go through the annexes (including a 65-page transcript of an Aug. 12 meeting of the committee on justice) to come to the inescapable conclusion that what they have done is construct a humongous mountain out of a molehill. And the sad part about it, is that the Chief Justice, in a letter to Speaker Joe de Venecia last Sept. 30, had already pointed out the molehill—in no uncertain terms.

The Chief Justice, they say, "underpaid" members and personnel of the judiciary (from the Judiciary Development Fund or JDF) to the tune of P527 million, covering the period 2000 to 2002. They computed this by adding the beginning balance for each year to the collections for the year and multiplying the total by 80 percent, which, according to the presidential decree creating the JDF, is the minimum amount which must be distributed to the employees of the judiciary. Any shortfall between that figure as calculated, and what was actually given out, is described as an underpayment—and constitutes an unlawful act on the part of the Chief Justice. The analysis presumes that any cash balance at the end of the year is, in effect, misspent.

Good grief. Under this construction, unless there is a zero cash balance at the end of each year, the Chief Justice is presumed to have committed an unlawful act. Which implies that the Chief Justice has to immediately allocate (and disburse) to the employees 80 percent of every collection—from every court in the land, you understand. Ridiculous.

As a matter of fact, if they just took a closer look at the COA Audit Report of the JDF for the years 2000-2002 instead of doing their own flawed auditing, Teodoro et al. would have seen (on Page 7 of the Executive Summary—computation of Fund Utilization Percentages) that there was no underpayment at all. The ratio of Cola to Income, per COA, was 129 percent in 2000, 76 percent in 2001, and 73 percent in 2003—or 90 percent of the total for the three years, which is greater than the 80 percent required minimum. Actually, there is nothing in that COA Report which indicates any violation of the law on the part of the Chief Justice—unlike, by the way, the COA report which found many faults on the part of Tancangco.

Determined to pursue their fault-finding, Teodoro et al. also take exception to the fact that the Supreme Court used JDF funds to refurbish the Supreme Court, to build two cottages and refurbish the other cottages in Baguio for the justices, buy motor vehicles, a printing press, etc. Because, they argue, these either cannot be categorized as office equipment and facilities, or even if they are, they exceed the collections of the courts that have used them. Davide's letter to De Venecia (why the latter did not put a stop to the shenanigans of Teodoro et al. is beyond me) demolishes these arguments on the (very proper) definitions of terms in the Administrative Code, the national scope of the Supreme Court, the fiscal autonomy given to the Supreme Court, and the authority of the Chief Justice to "augment" items in its budget (similar to the authority of the President, Senate President, Speaker and heads of constitutional commissions).

Where is the graft and corruption? Where is the unlawful act? Where is the improper behavior? It certainly does not appear to be in the Chief Justice. And if Teodoro et al. think they can get away with it, they have another think coming.

Confluence of motives

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

CITIZENS are reeling from the first-ever impeachment of a Supreme Court Chief Justice by over 80 House members and are trying to understand the reasons for it. The impact is understandable, since Chief Justice Hilario Davide is one of the most respected officials. In fact, after the Estrada impeachment trial at which he presided, surveys showed him as the most trusted Filipino. He was also the INQUIRER's "Filipino of the Year" three years ago. As Cebu City Rep. Raul del Mar, rising in the House in defense of his fellow Cebuano, put it, "Even by the highest standards of public service one can possibly think of, the Chief Justice is the last public official we should think of impeaching."

* * *

To understand the recent move, one should look for a confluence of motives among the groups of Eduardo Cojuangco, former Presidents Marcos and Estrada and backers of Sen. Panfilo Lacson. The Nationalist People's Coalition in the House, led by Cojuangco's "favorite nephew," Rep. Gilbert Teodoro, was the battering ram. Reports say Teodoro and NPC co-signatory Rep. William Fuentebella went from house to house to solicit the signatures of House members, although both deny it. It's evident that the move was a vendetta against the Chief Justice for his Court's adverse rulings against Cojuangco in the coco levy cases. The Erap group also wants revenge for the Court's role in installing Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo at Edsa II and its ruling affirming the legitimacy of her assumption of office. The Marcos group is angry over the Court's decision declaring the Marcos Swiss deposits as ill-gotten wealth which clearly belongs to the government, while the Lacson faction is doubtless mad at its decision to reopen the Kuratong Baleleng case.

* * *

Because these groups have or will have cases that will be brought before the Davide Court, the impeachment move can be read as an effort to harass the Chief Justice and weaken the Court. Unfortunately, it could provoke a constitutional crisis the country can ill afford at this time. The over 80 House members who endorsed it clearly did not consider the country's welfare.

Deputy Speaker Raul Gonzalez, who tried to talk some of them out of signing the complaint, recalled that if anyone should have a beef against the Court it is he. He was suspended from practicing law by Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan because, as tanodbayan then, he was trying to investigate the alleged misuse of funds during the time of Chief Justice Enrique Fernando (even then, the Court was very jealous of its fiscal autonomy and the separation of powers). That suspension caused Gonzalez to lose his post, but as he told his colleagues, he subsumed his personal hurt to the national interest, since impeaching the Chief Justice would bring grave harm to the judiciary and shake the stability of the country.

* * *

But while that plea fell on deaf ears, many lawyers and ordinary citizens are seeing the impeachment as plain harassment and are banding together for Davide's defense. The Bantay Katarungan of Sedfrey Ordoñez and Jovito Salonga is calling a press conference this afternoon at Club Filipino to denounce the House move and provide interesting highlights into hidden motives. A "Task Force Defend Davide" was formed yesterday by lawyer Juliano "Jelly" Nacino, former director of the IBP's free legal aid services, and former IBP president Jose Grapilon. E-Justice president Leonard de Vera and deans of various law schools have also come out to denounce the House move. Civic groups such as the Makati Business Club and the Concerned Women of the Philippines lament the "railroad express" against Davide in contrast to the foot-dragging in the case against Comelec Commissioner Luz Tancangco despite the tons of evidence against her a year ago.

* * *

Del Mar spoke about the "disturbing way" the impeachment move was carried out. First, it was filed even before the House was able to finally dispose of the first impeachment complaint filed by Estrada against Davide and seven other Supreme Court justices. In fact, noted Del Mar, the voting on the issue of sufficiency in substance of the first complaint was still going on in the committee on justice, after which it would have to submit its judgment to the plenary for affirmation or rejection, when the second complaint was sneaked in, "preempting" the first complaint. There is a suspicion that the NPC-dominated committee, chaired by NPC Rep. Marcelino Libanan may have deliberately slowed down the processing of the first complaint in order to allow its "preemption" by the second complaint.

* * *

The Chief Justice has argued that the Constitution prohibits the filing of a second complaint against an impeachable official within one year of a first complaint. But the House is banking on its Sec. 16, Rule V that a complaint is deemed "initiated" on the day the committee has ruled that it is sufficient in substance, or when the House votes in plenary on the committee finding. This is the key issue: When is the first complaint deemed "initiated"?

Former Constitutional Commissioner Christian Monsod argues, and IBP president Jose Cadiz concurs, that it's when even one House member signs and files it. The NPC-led express train argues, however, that it's when the complaint is passed by the committee and voted upon by the plenary. The House maintains that there was no first complaint, so that the second complaint is valid and can go to the Senate. Davide, Monsod and Cadiz argue that the first complaint was already valid, and so there cannot be room for a second complaint this year.

Expect this issue to be tossed for resolution. But by whom, the Senate acting as a trial court, or the Supreme Court with Davide inhibiting himself?

Close down the Philippines!

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I HAVE an idea. Why don't we just close down the Philippines? Declare bankruptcy, hang the "Closed for Business" sign on our borders, and start shipping out of here.

With the House of Representatives impeaching Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide, we now see the last remaining credible and respected institution in this country damaged and smarting from a malicious and patently political attack. Were our congresspersons so envious of the high repute that the Supreme Court enjoys that they determined to tear it down to their tawdry level?

So what do we plain folk have to believe in now? With our own officials seemingly bent on destroying this country, ruining whatever credibility and respect we enjoy in the world, we might as well call things off, fire everyone in government, and start sending everyone abroad to, as the religious conservatives put it so sweetly, "repopulate" the countries of the Western Hemisphere.

Because why else should we put up with our situation now? As the "Third Force" of Raul Roco, Rene de Villa and Lito Osmeña declares: "The impeachment complaint... will harm the Filipino people and the legal system. It can lead to a major constitutional crisis. It will further set back the economy, destabilize the peso and paralyze business leadership."

At least some countries have the expedient excuse of external pressures or religious strife or even health threats to explain the chaos bedeviling them. But our own ills are largely self-inflicted, and the destruction of the last remaining bastion of institutional integrity was something that was neither necessary nor wise.

* * *

HOUSE insiders say the impeachment process proceeded with such mysterious dispatch and curious stealth. The campaign for signatures started only last week, with Rep. Gilbert Teodoro (nephew and allegedly favored "son" of Danding Cojuangco) and Wimpy Fuentebella (the 25-year-old son of former short-lived Speaker Noli Fuentebella at the close of the Erap administration) going around, thrusting documents in people's faces that purported to show the details of the financial "mess" in the disbursement of the Judiciary Development Fund. Also among the materials was the letter signed by Davide to Speaker Joe de Venecia and the justice committee, in which the Chief Justice upheld the need for independence of the judiciary, in an attempt to demonstrate the "arrogance" of Davide. But they would never show the Articles of Impeachment themselves.

With 64 members of the Nationalist People's Coalition, there was no question about the complaint's prospering, especially since they could also count on the support of what have been called "maverick" Lakas members who have made no bones about favoring Danding Cojuangco for president. So it was quite easy to gather the necessary 76 signatures, and in fact they have managed to secure 87 signatories, including a few surprising names. (What have you done, JV Bautista?)

Not a few members of the House, though, are wondering why Lakas leaders have not done anything to stop their members from signing the complaint, with the Speaker making "not a peep" on the matter, and the President suddenly retreating and keeping a "hands-off" stance from the affair, beyond a pro-forma statement declaring her continuing "belief" in the integrity of the Chief Justice. So much for gratitude to the man who risked his own position to swear her into office.

* * *

WHAT many wonder is why our congresspersons deemed the matter of such urgency that they had to resort to "fast-tracking" the process of impeachment. Why, there wasn't even the usual nauseating "investigation in aid of legislation" called by the House or the Senate, though I'm sure the "Chief," ever-protective of the independence of the judiciary, would have also refused to submit himself or any other officer of the court, to such humiliation.

The NPC and House antics have set a dangerous precedent. From now on, the only thing someone with considerable financial and political clout need do in the face of an adverse Supreme Court decision would be to gather his minions and have them "initiate" an impeachment complaint against the Chief Justice. If this isn't an act of intimidation reminiscent of the Mafia, I don't know what is. And the truly awful thing about it is that it's being done by these slimy creatures under the mantle of "constitutionality."

Let's stop fooling ourselves. With our officials bent on damaging every last remaining symbol of respectability in this country, we have no business remaining in business. Let's shut this country down and let's all migrate to saner shores.

* * *

NOW on to more pleasant matters. Dubbed a "Retro Party for a Cause," Tapatan '03 promises to be a fun-filled night of music and revelry with exciting performances by Route '70, Men of Blue Blood with Gina Montes and other surprise guests at the Hard Rock Café in Glorietta 3 on Nov. 15, Saturday, at 7:45 p.m. Organized by Ateneo de Manila High School '72, La Salle Greenhills High School '72, Maryknoll College High School '72 and St. Scholastica's College High School '73, the fund-raiser is expected to bring together erstwhile school "rivals" for an evening of entertainment and camaraderie. The respective foundations of these classes will contribute proceeds to on-going teacher retirement fund and scholarship programs in their schools. The event is made possible in cooperation with Neutrogena, Smart Gold, Eva Air, San Miguel Light, Coke Light, Royal Tru-Orange Light, Johnnie Walker Black, Gilbey's, Powerade, Viva Mineral Water, Oxford Suites and People Asia Magazine. For inquiries and ticket reservations, call 843-9349 or 843-9350.

The battle of Malate

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

THIS was to be the second time that the quiet fishing village of Malate would know an invasion. More than a hundred years earlier, the British had landed and taken over the Augustinian church on its shores. This time it was the American Yankees who, after having devastated the antiquated Spanish navy, now sought a beachhead.

The first land fight in the Philippines was fought in the trenches of Malate at midnight of July 31, 1898, with Gen. Francis V. Greene commanding the American brigade, while a tropical storm raged with flashes of lightning and thunder roaring and the rain falling in torrents. Intense darkness reigned, concealing the movement of the enemies while the noise of the elements prevented them from being heard and drowned the sounds of the firing later on. The 1st Colorado under Lt. Col. McCoy, with four guns of the Utah Battery commanded by Capt. Young (grandson of Brigham), occupied the line 50 yards in advance of the Filipino revolutionary forces between the beach and Camino Real and 1,300 yards from an earthwork situated at the southern end of Malate.

Filipinos occupied the beach half a mile towards Pasay where General Norial's headquarters were located, divided from the Americans' by half a mile of bamboo swamp interspersed with mango trees.

Saturday passed quietly. Then late Sunday the Spaniards attacked the American entrenchments with enfilading fire. At 11 o'clock, the Spaniards opened fire on the American right (which had been left unprotected when General Aguinaldo's men retreated to Pasay), drawing the Pennsylvanian's fire outside the trenches, thus revealing their position. Some 2,000 Mausers opened fire from the dense bamboo thicket, 250 yards to the American right, while the Malate batteries bombarded the Americans, and from the front the fire of Nordenfields.

The Spaniards attempted to rush on the American right, to double the troops on the beach and sweep across the flats onto the camp. Company D of the 10th Pennsylvania Volunteers cut them off.

The Spaniards repeatedly advanced within 60 yards of the American entrenchment, but fell back before steady fire. A shell from Fort San Antonio shattered one of the Utah guns and the volunteer battery's position was becoming untenable when Colonel Hawkings dispatched a messenger to camp Dewey for reenforcements.

General Greene dispatched the California and Colorado regiments to the assistance of those under fire. Major O' Hart, without awaiting orders, sent two batteries into action as infantry to the trenches. The Pennsylvania troops had only four rounds per man left.

By this time, the firing, heavy and continuous, had aroused Camp Dewey and the call to arms was sounded at midnight. The 1st Battalion of the 1st California Volunteers marched to the front, crossing the muddy fields in the rain. Going down Camino Real, they met retreating revolutionary forces, who were firing as they ran. In the trenches, the California 1st Battalion began firing their Krag-Jorgensen rifles.

The 2nd California Battalion deployed to the right, holding the line to Pasay, with the Third being in reserve, with the Colorado men in the rear. For three hours the Spaniards kept up an enfilading fire, shooting high towards the second line of entrenchment held by the 2nd California Battalion.

The Spanish fire gradually abated by morning. At dawn, the garrison retired behind sandbag entrenchment at Malate. Occasionally American sharpshooters could be heard picking off the Spaniards. That ceased at sunrise.

It was surmised that the Spaniards carried off their dead as they retreated since no corpses were found on the field, but their losses were later estimated at 300 killed and 1,000 wounded. The Americans lost 10 soldiers and had 38 wounded. The grounds over which the Spaniards charged was dark with blood.

The following day, Aug. 1, the Spaniards made two weak attacks but were repulsed. On Aug. 2, they made another attack where one was killed and 11 wounded.

Since it looked like it was a matter of time before Intramuros fell, efforts were made to secure the surrender of Manila without further bloodshed. Knowing Archbishop Nozaleda's influence, Fr. William D. McKinnon, chaplain of the 1st California, sought an interview through the Belgian consul. The consul offered to meet the priest in Malate, showing the Belgian flag to indicate where to cross. The flag, however, did not appear and Father McKinnon crossed enemy lines without it, probably saying his prayers as he walked. He was met by two captains who took him to Fort San Antonio Abad, the Malate fortress, where not knowing Spanish he communicated in Latin. From there, he was escorted to Archbishop Nozaleda's palace in Intramuros.

The archbishop said he did not think Manila would be surrendered without a fight. He expected General Jaudenes to make a last-ditch effort. He further denied most emphatically authorship of a circular exhorting the Spaniards to resist the Yankees to their last drop of blood.

After this interview, Father McKinnon was driven through the Luneta and escorted across the Spanish lines. All further attempts to secure peace without bloodshed were now abandoned.

Escapade

YOUNG BLOOD

Iris Montellano

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

I RAN away from Cagayan de Oro City.

Barely a month after my graduation, I began my training for a one-year stint as a volunteer. Instead of looking for a job, I opted to join the Year of Service Program of Xavier University's Xavier Science Foundation, not knowing where I would be assigned and what exactly I would be doing.

I felt it was enough that I would be anywhere but in CDO for the rest of the year. My city had become too unbearable for me—physically and emotionally. I wanted to be some place else, discovering new horizons and conquering new worlds. I wanted to escape the adult responsibilities of finding a job and earning a living. I was determined to prove to myself and the rest of the world that I could live away from my family and friends and without the comforts of home.

In the beginning, I had doubts about my decision. I wondered if I had only been pushed into joining by a personal heartache I had experienced just a few weeks earlier. I was too numb to feel anything. It didn't seem right to get myself involved in society's problems and causes when I myself needed much reforming. I left Cagayan de Oro with all its pains and frustrations to live a life of service called volunteerism. I figured I must be insane.

But then, we all are insane. In order to fight away the numbness, I came up with a new motto: I'll take whatever comes first! In the course of the month-long training, I had time to reflect on the decision I had made. Yes, Mindanao needed me and I was ready to accept the challenge.

I was assigned to the Ilawan Center for Peace and Sustainable Development, under the supervision of Benjamin Abadiano. During our first meeting, he appointed me as program coordinator of the Pamulaan Lumad Learning Center (PLLC), the educational program for the indigenous people of Sitio Patag, Marilog District in Davao City. To get to Patag, one has to take a two-hour bus ride from the city and another 30-minute bumpy trip from the highway on a *habal-habal*.

At the PLLC, I teach English and Math subjects to my first-year high school students. To my frustration, I found out almost immediately that their knowledge of these subjects was about the Grade 3 level. It takes me a week or two to impart to them basic concepts. The simplest exercises are too difficult for them to comprehend.

The task is enough to make any volunteer want to cry and head for home. But we save our tears for better days when our students finally grasp their lessons. Then we know we are crying tears of joy.

On the other hand, I find much comfort with my pre-school angels as I read to them children's stories every day. Their smiles and innocent souls remind me of how I should live my own life—wildly and freely. I will always be thankful for the joy they give me by just being themselves. I love them all!

I use the energy I get from my preschool children to get me through my high school classes. There is no coping mechanism better than the fulfillment I get from my angels!

My first major breakdown in the place happened on July 28, 2003. I had just finished reading to my pre-school students the story about the "Musicians of Bremen" and I went on to arrange some things inside the classroom. Something was prompting me to stay longer. I was just sitting there, internalizing my feelings toward my pre-school angels, the high school students, the people of Patag and the volunteer program in general.

For the nth time, I came to terms with myself and acknowledged that despite my jolly disposition, I was as weak as anybody else. Indeed, there is a much greater force than ourselves: the divine force that is God. No matter how much we say that the individual can do it, in the end God's will still prevails.

As I returned to the staff house, I broke down and cried like a child who got lost in the night. Perhaps I had let go of all my pretenses and the myth of my indestructible self. All the emotions I had kept bottled up inside simply burst.

I was crying because I was no longer the Iris I once knew so well, the one with whom I had gotten used to living. I cried because God's grace seemed too much for a simple woman like me. Like a poem said, "I got nothing that I asked for yet everything that I have hoped for."

I left my family and friends and found new ones in Sitio Patag, in Davao City and beyond. True, I have been assigned to teach in the beautiful mountains of Marilog, but I never expected to see the evacuation centers in Pikit, North Cotabato, and the Buliok Complex in Maguindanao. One of the good things about having Sir Ben for a boss is that I get to take part in Tabang Mindanaw's programs and projects, since he is also the program coordinator of TM's Integrated Return and Rehabilitation Program and Indigenous Peoples Program.

We have no electricity in Patag and my cellular phone is useless since there is no signal. But I get to talk with the fireflies and the wind at night. The sunrise, the stars and the pale moonlight are mine for the taking. My so-called escape has turned out into an escapade.

Iris Montellano, 21, has a BS in Development Communication degree from Xavier University.

THEY SAID

Baseless charges

"I am prepared to meet them for what is a malicious, unjustified, baseless and unfounded accusation."

—Chief Justice Hilario Davide on the impeachment case against him

Preparation

"With all due respect to everybody, we should elect somebody who is well-prepared. Governance is not a simple matter."

—Former President Fidel Ramos, reacting to the possible candidacy of actor Fernando Poe Jr.

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SSS benefits for employers

THIS is to respond to a column of Honesto General titled, "Employers are the biggest stakeholders of SSS." (PDI, 9/22/03)

In his column, General said: "The biggest stakeholders of SSS are the employers. Their counterpart contributions are pure expense. They get none of the money back."

The benefits an employer gets may not be financial in nature. Employers gain by being a partner of the SSS in its goal of providing social security protection to their employees.

One, the company achieves industrial peace. This means employees have every reason to be happy in their work. These employees will appreciate the concern of their employer for their welfare by providing them social security protection.

Social security is indispensable during times of financial emergencies and in long-term contingencies such as retirement and disability. The member can take out various kinds of loans. Their beneficiaries can avail of funeral or death pension.

Two, goodwill is created when an employer registers their employees with the SSS.

The employees appreciate the fact that employers shoulder the majority of their contribution which is 6.07 percent of the monthly salary. Employees only have to pay 3.33 percent of the monthly 9.4 percent contribution rate.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to clarify issues that have considerable impact on the welfare of our stakeholders, both employers and employees.

—JOEL P. PALACIOS,
assistant vice president,
Media Affairs Department,
Social Security System,
East Avenue, Diliman,
Quezon City

Ban religious leaders from politics

THERE should be a law banning the Catholic Church and all other religious groups/leaders from interfering directly or indirectly in the political affairs of the country. Congress must pass a law prohibiting the Catholic Church from making unnecessary public pronouncements on television, and campaigning for certain politicians.

If government officials and employees can be charged with electioneering, why not religious leaders? No one should be above the law, regardless of religious belief or political affiliation.

The Catholic Church should concentrate on its religious obligations. Not only in words but in deeds. Should there be a law banning religious groups from interfering in the political affairs of our country, the Catholic hierarchy in the Philippines may yet sound a real religious institution that could be praised and exalted to high heavens.

—MARGARITA BALDONADO,
De Leon Street,
Sta. Maria, Zamboanga City

Why squatting goes on

THE SQUATTING problem in Metro Manila and other urban centers have gotten out of hand. The Lina Law has worsened our squatting problem. This law emboldened squatter syndicates to take over vast tracks of private property. In an interview on a TV show, Housing Secretary Mike Defensor claims that big squatter syndicates make billions from squatters every year. This is probably true. My maids tell me that their relatives pay a minimum of P1,500 monthly to syndicates for small shacks in the squatter areas.

These shacks are made of recycled materials and should cost these syndicates not more than P10,000 each, meaning, after only a few months, the syndicates get back their capital. They are making such huge profits that they can bribe city officials and the police, and even hire topnotch lawyers, so that their squatters are not evicted. This must be one of the most profitable businesses in the country today. Whoever heard of a business where capital is recovered in a few months and the rest is pure gravy?

The victims of these squatter syndicates are not the rich but the lower middle class, like teachers who buy lots in small subdivisions on installment basis, only to find out later that the lots they paid for have been invaded by squatters and they could no longer build their dream houses on them. To add insult to injury, they have to keep on paying their loan amortizations on these squatted lands which they cannot use, or risk losing them through public auction.

However, isn't there a provision in the Constitution guaranteeing the right to private property? Doesn't this make the Lina Law unconstitutional? In the United States, when someone squats on a property, the owner doesn't even have to go to court. All he has to do is call the police and they will arrest the squatter.

—RICO XERES,
Eisenhower Street,
Greenhills, San Juan,
Metro Manila

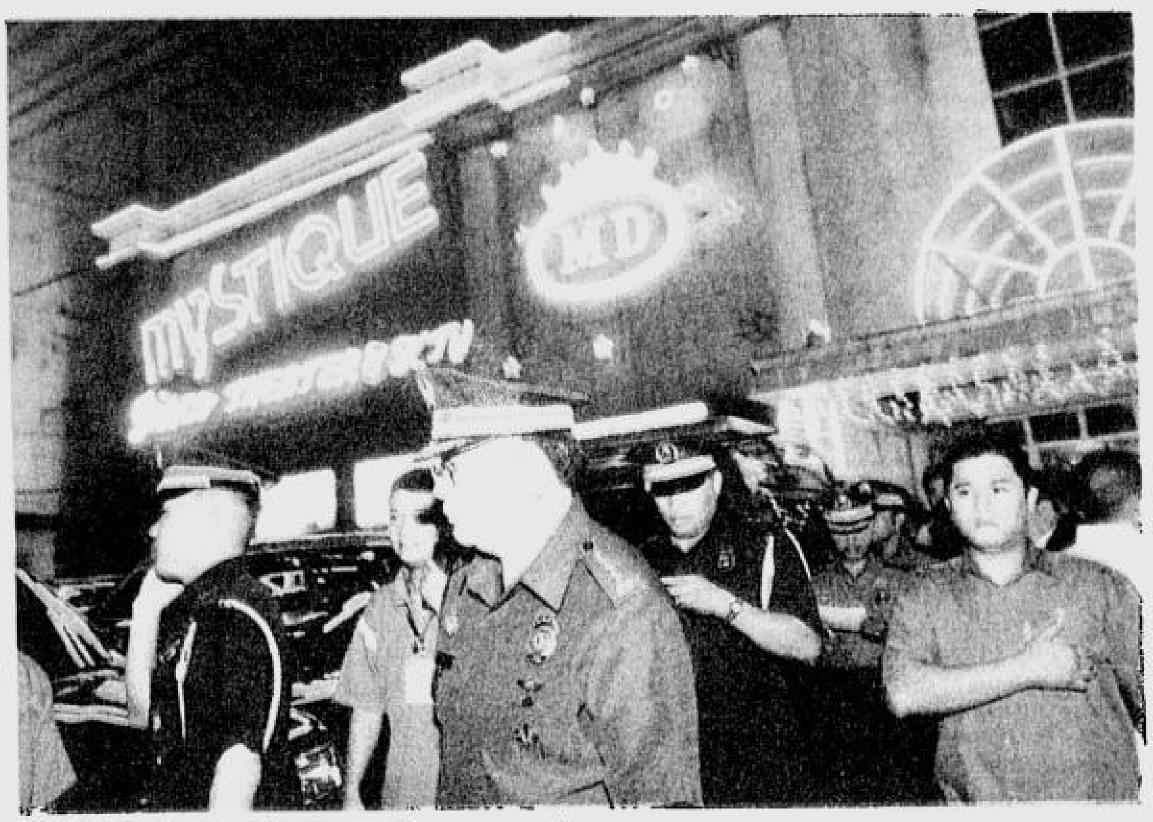
Road-widening project already investigated

THIS is our rejoinder to the letter, titled "What price development?" (PDI, 9/10/03) which came from a regular motorist, whose name was withheld upon request, calling attention to an alleged road-widening project being undertaken near the Marikina Riverbanks.

We would like to point out that on Aug. 29, 2003, the day after our office received a call regarding the project, we sent our technical staff to investigate. May we point out that we investigated a week before the letter was published in your newspaper. In other words, we acted on the concern even without its publication. Thus, it could not even be implied that we do not entertain valid and just concerns. Needless to emphasize, we do not usually publicize the things we do in line with our official functions.

However, we request the general public who may have concerns and/or complaints on any project with apparent impact on the environment to document them, to enable us to properly and expeditiously act accordingly.

—SIXTO E. TOLENTINO JR.,
regional director,
Environmental Management
Bureau-National Capital Region-
Department of Environment
and Natural Resources,
emb_ncr2003@yahoo.com



What is it to be really 'macho'?

I AGREE with the nightlife check on police officers and government officials. What a shame that so-called "authorities" frequent bars and nightclubs for "entertainment" and are patrons of prostitution. Aren't they the ones who are supposed to stop lewd shows which are prohibited under Article 201 of the Revised Penal Code? What an irony that government officials and law enforcers should be exploiting vulnerable women in the sex industry.

What a shallow way to enjoy and be entertained, at the expense of their wives and children, yet, who are waiting for them at home. It is common knowledge that policemen are not paid high salaries. How come they can afford to waste hundreds or thousands of pesos for a girlie show? Frequenting bars and nightclubs seems to be a normal activity for men nowadays to "unwind" and satisfy their "appetite." What trivial and dehumanizing form of entertainment men look for.

It is common knowledge too that many nightclubs serve as dens of prostitution. It is sad that prostitution is tolerated in our country despite its being illegal. It is appalling to know that even among young men, this concept of prostitution as "entertainment"—where women are reduced to commodities and objects of pleasure—is already accepted.

I hope someday that the law enforcers will seriously go after and penalize patrons and owners of prostitution dens. I hope someday that no women will be bought for sex. I hope someday a law will be passed to really stop prostitution.

Last Oct. 5 was the International Day of No Prostitution, a day where a call was made for everyone to help stop the buying and selling of persons, especially women and children, for sex. On that day, there was a call to protest pornography, phone sex, mail order bride services, trafficking, lewd shows, sex tours and prostitution in the bars, massage parlors on the street, in hotels or anywhere else.

I urge men, particularly those in uniform, to rethink their ideas of "entertainment." Refusing to patronize the prostitution business will mean respecting all women as well. Besides, shouldn't real manhood mean not having to buy women? Better said in Filipino, *ang tunay na lalaki ay hindi bumibili ng babae.*

—JENNY GALVEZ,
advocacy coordinator,
Samaritana Transformation
Ministries Inc.,
Diliman, Quezon City

No loss to the country

THOSE five or seven lawmakers who walked out when US President George W. Bush was about to address Congress were nothing but impolite and indecorous people who assumed they were somebody; thinking that a lot of people would admire and commend them for leaving the hall. No way!

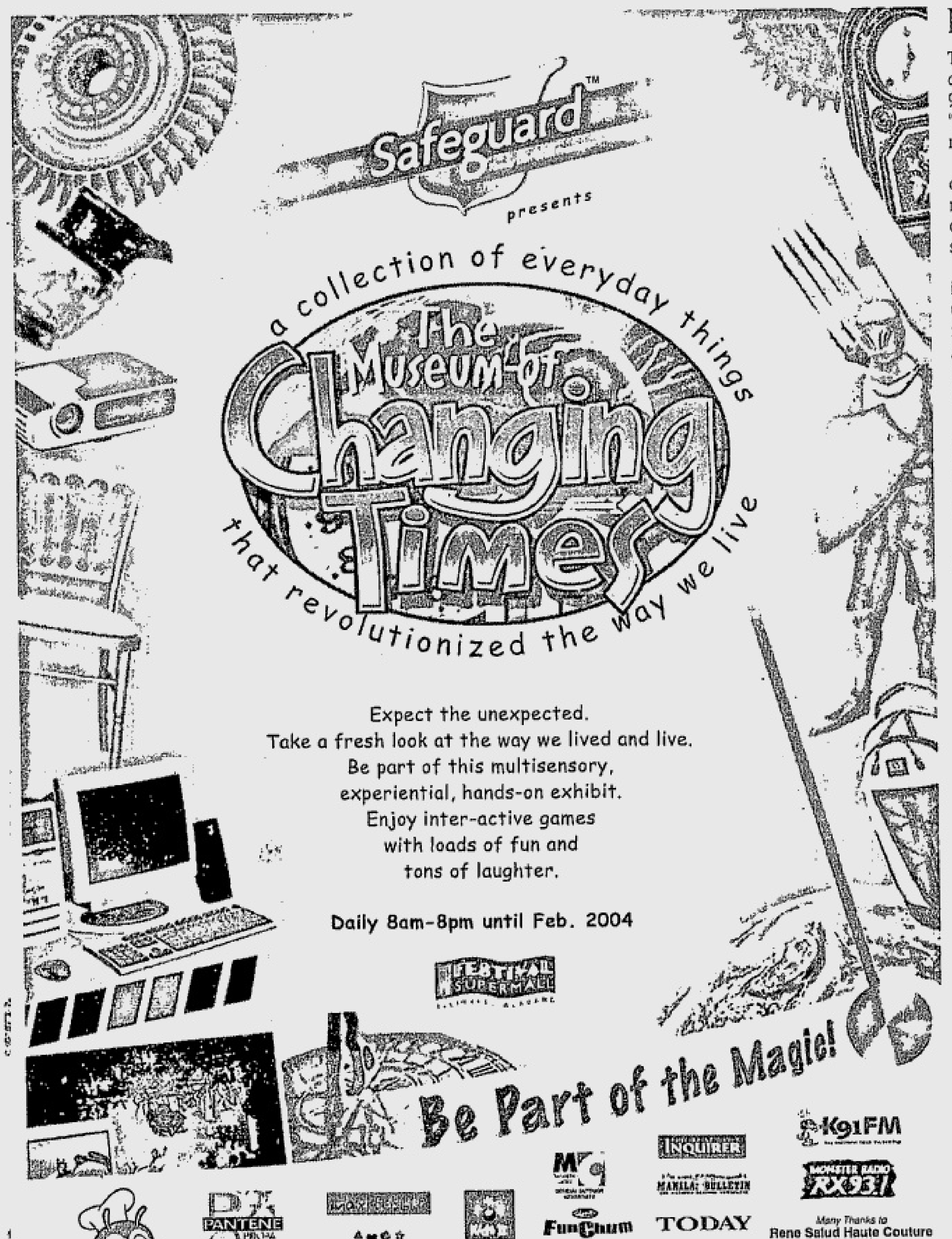
They didn't realize that their departure had no impact at all. If they were really concerned for the national interest, they should have linked up with other representatives and evaluated if there was any good thing this event could offer us.

I am no fan of President Bush nor do I admire his policies on international issues. But a visitor is a visitor, and if they were civil enough (or let's say, well-educated enough), they would have shown some consideration to our country's visitor. We, here in Saudi Arabia, upon reading on the Internet their disrespectful action, have condemned that very dimwitted and senseless action.

Again, their departure from the hall is no loss to the Philippines, but their loss.

Kudos to those who received our country's visitor. Down with the propagandists.

—RUBEN M. DAPUL JR.,
Saudi Arabian Oil Company,
Pipeline Projects Department,
ruben.dapul@aramco.com



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How were Meralco refunds computed?

THIS is a rejoinder to the letter, "Consumer audit team for power rate charges," (PDI, 9/25/03) wherein the writer noted that "there's something misleading about Meralco's refund TV advertisement."

Indeed, the ads in TV and newspapers are clearly misleading since Meralco omitted to make a reference to the legal and factual basis of the refund which is a Supreme Court decision.

Come to think of it, the "happy customers," instead of thanking Meralco for the "few pesos that it gave away during the first phase of its refund in June," should thank the Lawyers Against Monopoly and Poverty (LAMP) and the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) for taking the cudgels for them.

In the interest of truth, the ad should clearly state the role of LAMP, the OSG and other similar groups in holding the line for consumers all the way to the Supreme Court.

Moreover, the ads should also explain how Meralco computed the refund of the consumers. The explanation would be highly informative and enlightening to Meralco customers since, as far as I know, no consumer group is involved in the computation of each customer refund.

Finally, what happened to the issue about the imposition of interest on the refund? I've read the position of consumer groups which came out in this paper (Talk of the Town section) and I fully agree with them that the refundable amount should include the payment of interest.

By all means Meralco should be directed to pay interest on the refund amount, especially that it has proposed that the overcharge amount be paid over a nine-year period.

—ROLDAN NAYBE,
14 Makadios, Sikatuna Village,
Diliman, Quezon City

FILSCAP WINS COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT CASE AGAINST PEGASUS CLUB AND RESTAURANT

The Filipino Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Inc. (FILSCAP) wins its case for "infringement of Copyright and Damages" against Pegasus Club and Restaurant located at Quezon Avenue corner Scout Chuatoco Street, Quezon City, which is owned and operated by Upbeat Entertainment, Inc. The Regional Trial Court of Quezon City Branch 90 found that local and foreign musical works were played and continues to be played or publicly performed at the Pegasus Club, without Upbeat Entertainment, Inc., first securing a public performance license from FILSCAP, which represents here in the Philippines the local and foreign composers of these musical works, Judge Reynaldo Daway, Regional Trial Court Judge of Quezon City's Branch 90, rejected the defenses and counterclaims of Upbeat Entertainment, Inc. due to its failure to substantiate them.

FILSCAP is a non-stock, non-profit corporation which represents the public performance, mechanical reproduction, synchronization and publishing rights of its members. It also represents the same rights of foreign composers affiliated with foreign collecting societies like ASCAP and BMI in the United States through reciprocal agreements.

It was learned that prior to the filing of the infringement case against Upbeat Entertainment, Inc., FILSCAP demanded that Upbeat Entertainment, Inc. first secure a public performance license before playing songs or musical works belonging to ASCAP and BMI at the Pegasus Club. The license fee for the period of July 1994 to December 1998, amounting to P221,092.00, was computed based on FILSCAP's standard formula and guidelines. Despite FILSCAP's demand for Upbeat Entertainment, Inc. to pay the license fee, the latter chose to ignore payment. FILSCAP, through its counsel, Atty. Henry Ll. Yusingco, Jr., filed a complaint to protect the interest of the songwriters it represents as well as its contractual obligation with foreign performance societies.

In its ruling, the court stated that Upbeat Entertainment, Inc. clearly infringed on the copyrights assigned to and administered by FILSCAP. The court also ruled that FILSCAP presented sufficient evidence to justify its claims for infringement and that it finds the claims for unpaid license fees and royalties, attorney's fees, costs of suit and exemplary damages to be just in proportion to the gross revenues of Upbeat during the period which would run in the tens of millions of pesos. The court ordered Upbeat Entertainmet, Inc. to pay FILSCAP P221,092.00 in lieu of actual damages; P200,000.00 in exemplary damages, P50,000.00 attorney's fees plus cost of suit.

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MINING TOWN REBELS

Cops say they broke new NPA cell

CAMP DANGWA, Benguet—The Cordillera police busted a New People's Army cell that was allegedly developing in the mining town of Mankayan, the INQUIRER learned on Friday.

Benguet policemen arrested six members of the NPA's Jennifer Cariño Command, a supposedly new underground operation whose existence surprised authorities here.

But even before they are arraigned, Benguet Gov. Raul Molintas had offered the six youths possible clemency should they apply for the rebel returnee program.

Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr., Philippine National Police chief, offered them jobs with the police when the six were presented to reporters here on Friday.

A joint police-military operation arrested James Galleto, 19; Estella Galleto, 20; Lucena Tilag, 24; Denver Simon, 26; Rosaline Gudchan, 26; and Robert Navarette, 25.

The arresting officers claimed to have recovered an M-16 Armalite rifle and several handguns from them.

One of the suspects confirmed to reporters that the NPA cell was genuine, although Left-wing organizations here said they had no information about a new rebel cell. Rebel activities in the region are coordinated by the NPA's Ilocos-Cordillera regional command.

Human rights lawyer Jose Molintas had tapped the Baguio City-based Dinteg Indigenous Law Center to help the suspects.

Chief Supt. Victor Luga, Cordillera police director, said police are charging the suspects with illegal possession of firearms.

"We are still building a rebellion case against them," Luga told reporters.

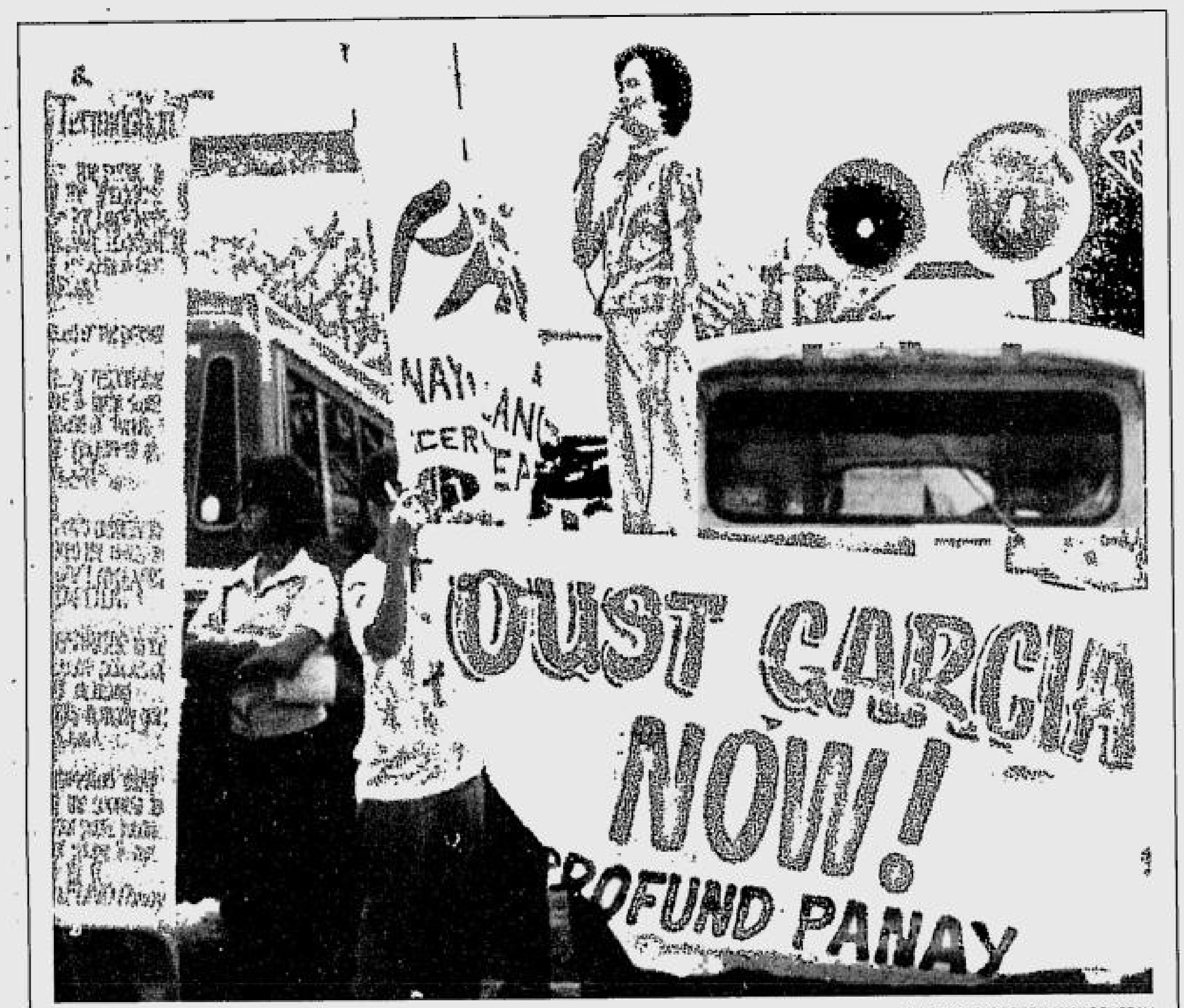
Governor Molintas, former chair of the Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC), said the creation of the Jennifer Cariño Command appeared to address the growing disenchantment in Benguet with the expansion of a local mining operation and the controversy surrounding the development of the San Roque multipurpose dam project.

He said the NPA had successfully recruited members from Barangay Dalupirip in Itogon town. The San Roque Dam straddles Dalupirip and San Manuel town in Pangasinan. Residents there, who were backed once by the Benguet provincial board and by the Itogon municipal council, had objected to the dam because its reservoir threatens to submerge the community.

The governor said recruitment had apparently been taken to Mankayan because the Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. (LCMC) is expanding its six-year-old Victoria gold project.

The LCMC has scheduled a public hearing on Nov. 19, prior to securing an environmental compliance certificate for an upgrade of daily gold output from 2,500 tons to 5,000 tons.

The expansion will take seven years, a source said. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



NESTOR BURGOS/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

GOVERNMENT workers continue to press for the ouster of GSIS chief Winston Garcia for alleged mismanagement of the fund that led to the delay in benefits to members. In Iloilo City, government men use a jeepney as a stage to press for Garcia's removal amid what they said was President Macapagal-Arroyo's coddling of the GSIS chief.

Communist guerrillas attack Samar cop station

TACLOBAN CITY—Around 500 suspected members of the New People's Army (NPA) raided a police station in Gamay town in Northern Samar early yesterday, leaving one policeman wounded.

Reports reaching the Armed Forces of the Philippines Central Command based in Cebu City, said the rebels disarmed the policemen, shot one of them and seized all their 13 firearms.

Gamay, 388 km from Tacloban City, is in the northeast side of Northern Samar, and adjoins Oras town, which was also raided by the rebels in June. In the Oras attack, five soldiers, a soldier's wife and 11 paramilitary men were killed.

SPO1 Edgardo Opeña, of the Philippine National Police provincial headquarters based in Northern Samar's capital town of Catarman, said the NPA rebels swooped down on the police station at around 6:30 a.m. yesterday.

The four police officers who were on duty at that time fought back and engaged the attackers in an hour gunfight.

One of them, PO1 Alex Alastoy, was hit in the left side of his chest.

Opeña also said the NPA also raided the houses of PO2 Alex Mendez and PO1 Wildfredo Albino and took their M16 service firearms. The houses of the two policemen were near the police station, Opeña said.

Gen. Cezar Tiongson, commanding general of the 802nd Brigade of the Philippine Army based in Catarman, told the INQUIRER in a text message that he already sent a reinforcement team from the 63rd Infantry Battalion based in Catubig, Northern Samar, about 70 km north from Gamay. *Joey Gabieta and Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Kidnapping suspect slain in clash with gov't troops

CAMP SIONGCO, Maguindanao—A suspected member of the Pentagon kidnapping gang was killed in an encounter with government forces in Maguindanao on Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Generoso Senga, 6th Infantry Division chief, identified the slain Pentagon member as Datu Kambali, a follower of gang leader Tahir Alonto.

Senga said soldiers of the Army's 66th Infantry Battalion received information about the presence of about 10 heavily armed Pentagon members in Barangay Lumaba, S.K. Pendatun, Maguindanao at about 5 a.m. Thursday.

When the soldiers arrived in the village, the suspects ambushed them, triggering a gunfight, Senga said. A soldier was wounded in the 15-minute gunfight.

Senga said the suspects were believed to be behind the foiled kidnapping of trader Michael Escanlar in Isulan, Sultan Kudarat. But they managed to seize three of Escanlar's security escorts, including his uncle.

According to Senga, the kidnappers have been asking for a P50-million ransom in exchange for releasing their victims. Senga told the victim's family not to give in to the demand and urged them to cooperate with the law enforcers.

Soldiers also recovered two M-16 Armalite rifles from the slain Kambali. Government forces, backed by armored personnel carriers, are still scouring the villages near Barangay Lumaba. *Edwin Fernandez and Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

'Angel' De Vera, 42

ANTONIO "Angel" Frias De Vera of Dagupan City died on Oct. 22 in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. De Vera died of cardiac arrest. He was 42.

He is survived by wife Emily; children Nikki, Nadja and China; mother Mila, brother Luis, and sisters Julie and Therese.

De Vera was a peasant organizer in Mindanao from 1980 to 1983 and in Southern Tagalog from 1985 to 1989.

After that, he was a researcher-writer for several people's organizations in Southern Tagalog.

For two years until his death, he worked as researcher-translator for the education department of Kilusang Mayo Uno.

His body lies at the San Ramon Funeral Homes in Dita, Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

His comrades and friends are scheduled to hold a eulogy for De Vera at 6 p.m. today at the San Ramon Funeral Homes.

He will be cremated tomorrow, 7 a.m. at the Eternal Gardens in Biñan, Laguna.

Gov't scientists express doubt over Cordillera farmers' losses

BAGUIO CITY—Government scientists are rechecking claims that Cordillera farmers lost big when they were displaced in 2001 and 2002 from their traditional markets by imported vegetables, the INQUIRER learned on Tuesday.

Ben Ladilad, Cordillera director of the Department of Science and Technology, said a validation of the Cordillera's "post-harvest losses for major vegetables" could influence government's importation policies.

Earlier, President Macapagal-Arroyo stopped commercial importers from buying Chinese carrots due to the lobby from Benguet and Mt. Province farmers and traders.

Commercial importers have questioned the validity of a P1.2-million loss that Cordillera farmers had attributed to the imported vegetables, Faustino Maslan, regional director of the Department of Agriculture, said in an earlier interview.

Benguet Gov. Raul Molintas and Mt. Province Gov. Sario Malinias led farmers in a series of rallies that condemned the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). They said the farmers lost P1.2 million in potential revenues when the Bureau of Plant Industry allowed importers to flood markets with European and Chinese salad vegetables.

The rallies prompted importers to transact a shipping deal with Cordillera farmers, only to renege it this year after they criticized the foundations for the farmers' losses, Maslan said.

Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo is investigating how some of these commercial importers managed to obtain clearances for new salad vegetable imports despite Ms Macapagal's prohibition.

Nancy Bantog, a DOST science researcher, said the study was fueled by numerous field studies on Benguet agriculture that produced contrasting conclusions.

"All the agencies agree on what problems ail Benguet farmers, but their independent studies reveal different foundations and different conclusions. Addressing their problems will rely on the details," Bantog said.

Although the differences of these studies are substantial, Ladilad said the conflicting data arise from the different methods used in developing these studies on the vegetable trade. He said the new government study would try to fill in the gaps of other agency studies. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Cops link NPA to youths' abduction-slay

DAVAO CITY—The Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) has trained its sights on the possible involvement of the New People's Army (NPA) in the abduction and murder of four youths in Maco, Compostela Valley last month.

Supt. Jose Pante, CIDG regional director, said in the course of their investigation they chanced upon pieces of information that NPA rebels executed the victims because of their refusal to join the rebel movement.

Pante said he now subscribes to the earlier statement of Lt. Col. Agane Adriatico, chief of the 5th Civil Relations Group for Southeastern Mindanao, that the four were only used as sacrificial lambs of the NPA to discredit the military organization.

The NPA, however, denied the allegation and instead released its own statement naming three of the five military members who were allegedly behind the incident.

Army Capt. Denmark Mamaril, Sgt. Roy Telang, and Adan Marcus, all of the Intelligence Security Unit (ISU), were identified by the NPA's Merardo Arce Command as among the five suspects.

Pante earlier said the three were among those being investigated.

Militants lambasted the CIDG's alleged update of its investigation, saying it was a clear indication of a cover-up and whitewash to clear the names of military suspects.

Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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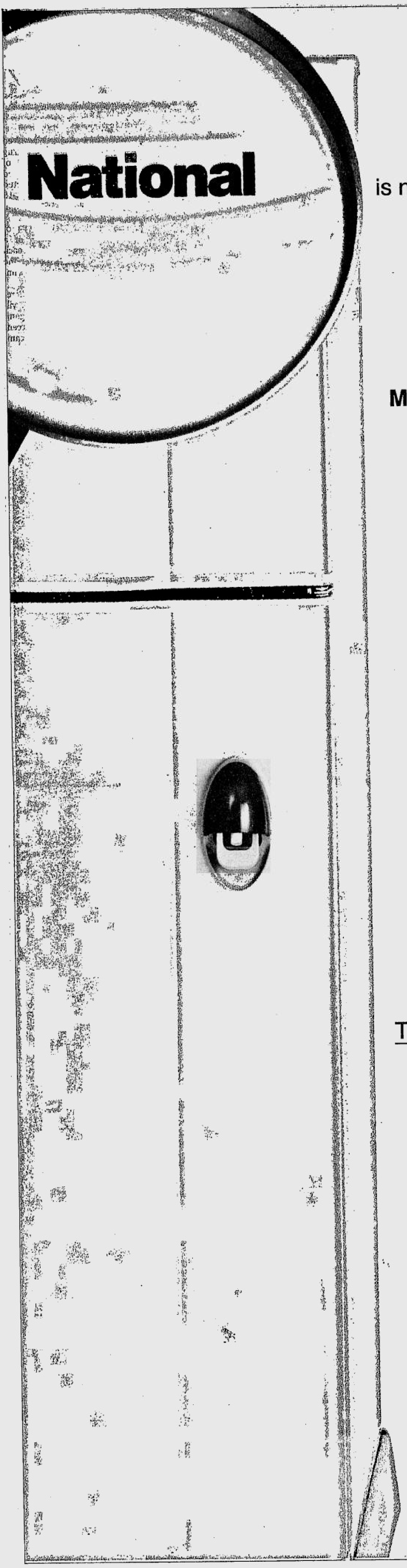

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Bongbong orders police to step up visibility

LAOAG CITY—Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has asked the police to increase their visibility in communities where tension between warring families is brewing.

The recent killing of a former National Bureau of Investigation official caught Marcos' attention, saying that it draws security concerns.

"It has become very worrying that you wake up everyday with the information that somebody got shot and killed or there is now a feud developing between two families," he said.

Police are looking at personal and political rivalry as motive for the Oct. 19 killing of former NBI lawyer Patrocinio Aurelio whose death came barely four months after his son-in-law survived an ambush.

Hours after Aurelio was gunned down in Barangay Calayab here, a certain Niño San Jose, believed to be one of the gunmen, turned up dead.

A red Toyota Corolla, which police identified as the getaway car, was abandoned with San Jose's body on a roadside in nearby San Nicolas town.

Supt. Joel Pagdilao, city police chief, had invited for questioning Allan Pedro, said to be the car owner, and his father, engineer Albino Pedro, and village guard Walden Pascua. *Cristina Arzadon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

DIRECTIVE TO PNP

Pols in drugs barred in 2004

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Candidates or politicians seeking fresh terms but who have been found involved in the illegal drug trade or were found using drugs will be banned from running in the May 2004 elections, according to a top Philippine National Police official.

Deputy Director General Edgardo Aglipay, chief of the PNP's anti-illegal drugs task force, on Thursday said local or national candidates would have to undergo the mandatory drug test set by Republic Act 9165, which he described as tougher than the previous anti-illegal narcotics law, Republic Act 6425.

Charges

According to him, charges of moral turpitude would be immediately filed against politicians and candidates found positive for drug use. This legal action, he said, would disqualify prospective candidates.

"The nature of this campaign is continuous," he said.

He said the task force was also confirming reports on the involvement of politicians in the illegal drug business.

"We have to weed out drug traders and users especially in the government and in the police," he told the INQUIRER.

He denied there was already a list but noted that the information reaching the task force had identified mayors down to village chiefs who are possibly involved in the drug trade.

'Spare no one'

President Macapagal-Arroyo's instruction was to "spare no one" in the war on illegal drugs, he said.

Aglipay said the list of politicians involved in illegal drugs would be released once there was enough evidence against them.

He said the police had busted three of 13 transnational drug syndicates, neutralized 69 of 175 local groups and cleared 2,444 of 6,000 drug-affected barangays after the Sept. 15 deadline given by Ms Macapagal to the task force.

On Thursday, Aglipay proposed the full adoption of a barangay-based approach against illegal drugs, citing the success of Central Luzon in its implementation.

Chief Supt. Vidal Querol, regional police director, said village-based councils and organizations were behind 80 percent of the police's antidrug campaign.

Solons seek DPWH chief's retention

SEVERAL legislators have come out in the open to support beleaguered Public Works Secretary Florante Soriquez.

In separate statements, Representatives Wilhelmo Alvarado-Sy of Bulacan, Aurelio Umali of Nueva Ecija, and Oscar Rodriguez of Pampanga said they continued to have faith in Soriquez's capability to carry out vital infrastructure projects.

Soriquez was suspended for 90 days on orders of the Sandiganbayan for alleged overpricing and faulty design in portions of the FVR Megadike which was built when he was still head of the Mt. Pinatubo Commission.

Sy said he saw signs of efficiency at the Department of Public Works and Highways under the term of Soriquez.

"For him (Soriquez) to leave would be too unfortunate," said Sy.

He said he was impressed by the reforms that Soriquez tried to bring into the DPWH "such as fast-tracking of projects, ensuring quality of work, transparency in operations and efficient use of public funds."

A statement issued by Soriquez quoted Umali as saying "as of this month (October) the DPWH under Soriquez has already completed 80 percent of its projects."

ROUNDUP

Drug pushers held

COTABATO CITY—Antinarcotics agents arrested on Saturday two suspected drug peddlers and seized from them 100 grams of shabu in a buy-bust operation at Crossing Simuay in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao. Senior Insp. Romeo Espero, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency deputy chief for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said Jimmy Gomez, 19, and Akmad Kadali, 29, both of Sultan Kudarat, were "caught in the act" of selling shabu in an entrapment operation. Espero said the suspects were caught receiving from an undercover agent P106,000 in marked money as payment for 100 grams of shabu. The two, accused of violating the dangerous drugs law which is punishable by death, denied the charges.

Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Inmate recaptured

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—A fugitive member of the Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang who bolted the city jail here together with Pentagon gang leader Tahir Alonto in 2000 was recaptured by the military. Dario Quiam alias Making, who is facing charges of murder and car theft, before a local court, was shot and captured Monday in Barangay San Jose by members of the Joint Task Force GenSan. Quiam is confined at the military ward of the City Integrated Hospital for treatment. He suffered a bullet injury in the foot when he tried to escape. In November 2000, about 80 heavily-armed men stormed the city jail in Sitio Lanton, Barangay Apopong and freed Alonto, then facing trial for the kidnapping of the Cavalida brothers of Digos City. More than 60 other prisoners escaped with Alonto. The police and military launched a massive manhunt but only 35 were recaptured. *Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

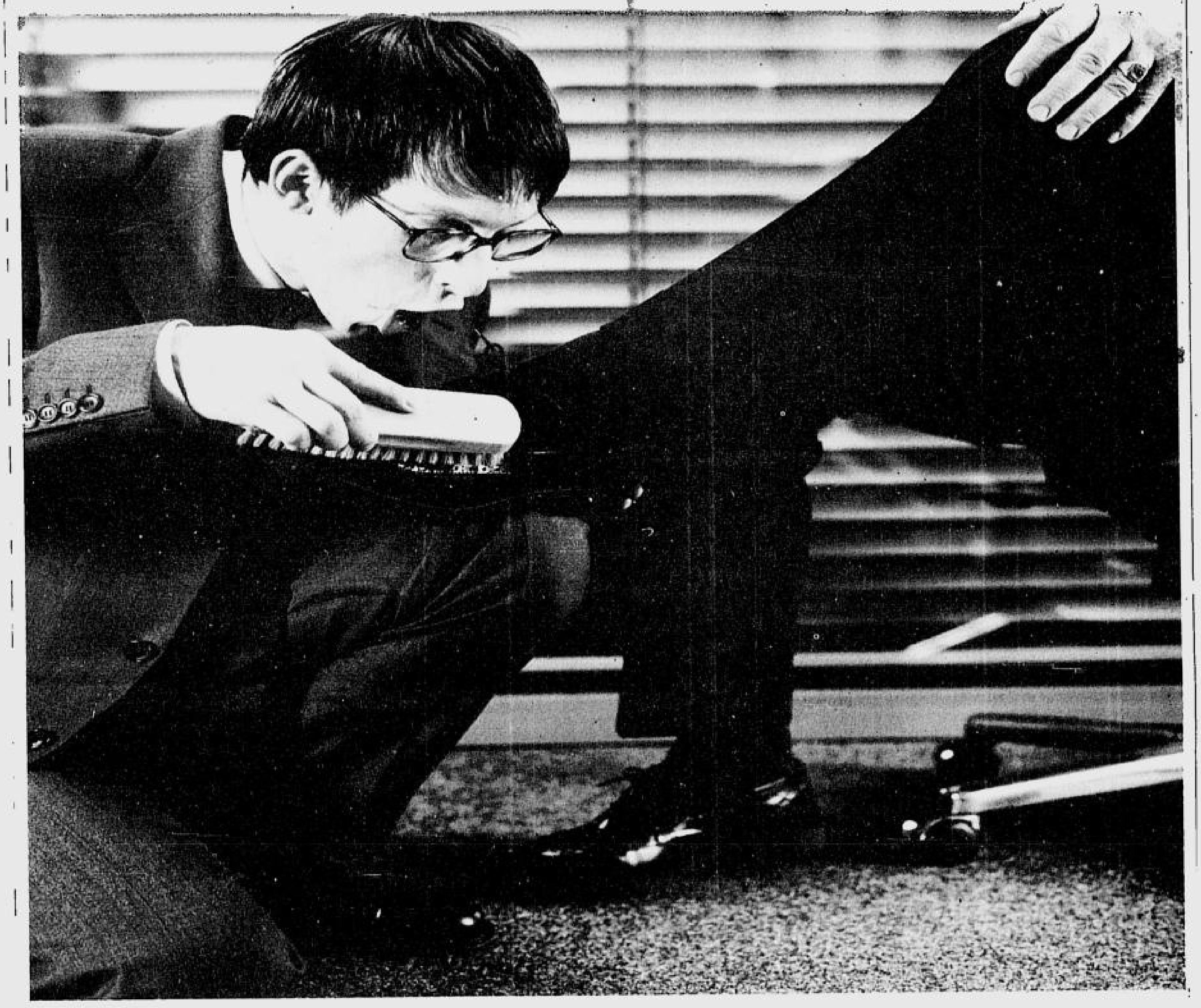
Ex-cop, wife slain

CALASIAO, Pangasinan—A former Dagupan City police officer and his wife were shot and killed by three men inside an eatery here on Wednesday night. Police said retired SPO4 Cesar de Vera Baguis, 55, and his wife Marilyn, 50, had just arrived at the eatery near the town market in Poblacion West when three men fired at them. The couple died before reaching the Region I Medical Center in Dagupan City. The gunmen fled to San Carlos City in a white motorcycle. *Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Snatcher shot dead

LEGAZPI CITY—A suspected member of a snatching gang operating in Daraga, Albay and in this city was shot dead inside a jeepney by an unidentified person along Rizal Street in Barangay Sagpon, Daraga. Supt. Genesius Molto, Daraga police chief, said the victim, Glenn Manila of Binitayan, Daraga, was shot in the head while on board a jeep from Legazpi City to Daraga town together with the suspect. Manila was earlier arrested for several snatching cases, Molto said. He added that they were looking into the identity of the gunman.

Joyce Mejillano, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau



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Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Edralyn L. Benedicto

Villagers mourn the death of dugong

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
Iloilo City

THREE weeks after it was beached by waves, a baby dugong or sea cow (*Dugong dugon*) died due to diarrhea on Oct. 4, but its finders are mourning its loss, like it was one of their own.

The dugong, a little over a meter long, was rescued off Barangay Duyong, the coastal town of Pandan town, some 123 kilometers from the capital town of San Jose, Antique. It was beached on the second week of September near the house of Guillermo Unlayao, an employee of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (Seafdec).

Unlayao's family and the neighborhood were roused from their sleep with the incessant barking of dogs that saw the strange creature, said Augusto Surtida, a Seafdec employee who wrote a press release on the dugong.

When residents tried to drive the dugong back to the sea but it kept coming back, they decided to nurse the baby dugong, and named it "Klong-klong," meaning to "cradle in your arms."

They fed it with infant formula using an infant feeding bottle but instead of a regular rubber nipple, they used a hose that was placed directly into the mouth of the dugong.

Two weeks after it was found, Romeo Trono of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Philippines based in Antique, asked Seafdec to take in the dugong. It was transported to Seafdec, in Tigbauan town, Iloilo by an ambulance, and was also fed with all sorts of baby formula, and even sweetened condensed milk.

Veterinarian Mariel Bucat monitored the dugong's health while WWF's Dr. Perry Aquino, assigned in the Malampaya Sound Project in Palawan also came over, said Surtida.

But their efforts were rather late. On Oct. 4, three weeks after it swam ashore, Klong-klong died in a holding pond of Seafdec.

Nilo Ramoso, biologist of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said the likely cause of its death were dehydration due to severe diarrhea and ulceritis.

Seafdec sent back the body of Klong-klong to Pandan where it was preserved for display in the barangay hall of Duyong. Incidentally, Barangay Duyong is so named because residents in the village have seen dugongs beached or swimming near their shore in the past.

DR. MARIEL Bucat, veterinarian, cradles Klong-klong inside the holding pond of Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (Seafdec) in Iloilo. The baby dugong died on Oct. 4, due to diarrhea. ROMEO BUENDIA

Unique

A dugong is a unique marine mammal found in the Philippine waters, said the online information of WWF Philippines. Its grayish body is shaped like torpedoes and it has small flippers and whale-like tail. Adult dugong can grow up to three meters long and weigh more than 400 kilograms. The newborns are over a meter long.

Dugongs are peaceful and shy creatures. They swam along the coasts and in between islands, to look for food, avoid humans, ride with the waves and lap with tides, depending on the weather and seasons.

Dugongs come up to the surface to breathe every four minutes. They graze mainly on sea grasses and some invertebrates. An adult dugong can consume 25 kilograms of sea grasses a day. They are probably the only herbivorous mammals today.

Dugongs live longer—up to 70 years. They have a very low reproductive rate. Dugongs reach sexual maturity at 9 to 17 years. A female dugong will give birth to a single calf after 12 to 13 months, and would nurse it for at least 18 months. The mother's teats are located under its flippers. It would be another three to five years before a female dugong conceives again.

Dugongs have become extinct in many areas of the Philippines. Most of the remaining dugongs can be found in Palawan.

Areas with possible population of dugongs are the eastern coasts of Luzon, somewhere along Isabela and Quezon, and southern Mindanao. There were also reported sightings in Bicol, particularly Catanduanes, and in Romblon, Mindoro, Caluya Islands, Cuyo, Davao del Sur, Iloilo and now Pandan, Antique.

The WWF Philippines said dugongs were once valued for their meat, which is considered a delicacy. Today, they are no longer actively pursued by nets, dynamites and spears but they are still caught in fish traps and fishing nets with dire consequences: most of them are butchered.

Vulnerable to extinction

Pollution and the continued deterioration of sea grass beds in the coastal areas also contribute to the declining population of dugong.

Since 1982, the International Union for Conservation of Nature-World Conservation Union classified dugong as vulnerable to extinction. It was also listed in the Appendix 1 of the Conservation on International Trade of Endangered Species of the World Flora and Fauna.

The Dugong Research and Conservation Project in Dimakya Island in Busuanga, Palawan is studying dugong behavior and habitat since 1996. The project is sponsored by WWF, DENR, University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute, and local nongovernment organizations.

Very little is known about dugongs in the Philippines, thus there is a need to campaign to save them from extinction.

Who can we trust?

LUCID INTERVAL

Rowena V. Guanzon

SENIOR Police Inspector Clarence Dongail, and Ilocano policeman assigned in Bacolod City, was awarded several times for his good performance as former chief of the drug enforcement section.

Last year, a suspect whom he arrested filed a case against him alleging that Dongail cut off his finger, but the case was dismissed. That is one accusing finger not pointing at Dongail now, who is charged with a heavier crime.

In an ironic twist of fate, the 30-year-old Dongail is some sort of a local celebrity in Bacolod not because of his track record in busting drug dealers, but because the National Bureau of Investigation of Bacolod charged him with the murder of Elueterio Salabas, brother-in-law of a former congressman of Bacolod.

The people in Bacolod have an opinion and speculation for every development in this case, which is a good sign that they are aware of the issues and the implications of this case to our community. It is a good thing that cases are won in courts and not by the people's verdict, or the NBI chief of Bacolod would be in serious danger of being banished from the land where sugar is made.

Last Oct. 19, Dongail was mobbed by people asking for autographs when he was awarded as outstanding police officer during Bacolod's Charter Day celebration.

All of the radio stations, except one, are questioning the NBI's case especially when they filed a murder case against Dongail in Guihulngan, Negros Oriental and two more cases in Bacolod for the murder of Salabas' two companions.

With the preliminary investigation being conducted in Guihulngan, Dongail will be unable to testify in several drug cases in Bacolod. If he is tried for murder, he will be jailed in Negros Oriental, where his fellow police officers in Bacolod cannot support him. The trial of these cases will last several years, even if Dongail is acquitted.

Whatever is the outcome of this case, there is another casualty in this conflict, and that is the people's trust. With the police and the NBI at odds, and in a case complicated by suspicions that big time drug dealers are involved, who can the people trust?

While the police and the NBI slug it out, on the sidelines are people who have all the right to say, "*pareho lang na sila tanan*" (they are all the same). When the people can make this conclusion, then clearly the reputation of law enforcers in this country is down in the pits.

If the theory of some police officers is correct that big time drug dealers want Dongail out of the way, then we have a serious problem in Negros. If the NBI in Bacolod has been corrupted, and some fiscals and judges can be bought by drug lords, then we should be worried.

We, especially our children, are in greater danger if drug lords will directly or indirectly finance the candidacies of our mayors, governors and congressmen. If drug lords can finance presidential candidates, they can finance local candidates.

The NBI and the police can work hard to prove their theories, but the image of their respective institutions is not going to be judged by the outcome of the Dongail case but by their performance in arresting drug lords, traffickers of women and children, and syndicates. Both of them should work very hard to arrest drug dealers now, if only to prove each other wrong.

To save Dongail, the police in Negros Occidental are furiously following leads. Along the way, let's hope they catch more drug dealers and pushers. While they are at it can they please catch rapists, traffickers and illegal recruiters. If only for this, we have Dongail to thank for.

Good news for women

Last week, the Senate has ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

The CEDAW enumerates the human rights of women, and specifies non-discrimination clauses. Being a signatory to the CEDAW, the Philippine Government must pass laws and adopt policies to ensure the protection of women's human rights. One such law is the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003.

The Protocol is a treaty in support of the CEDAW and adds to the mechanisms for enforcement of women's human rights. It gives individuals and groups of women the right to complain to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women about violations of the Convention. It also enables the Committee to conduct inquiries into grave or systematic abuse of women's human rights in countries that have become party to the Optional Protocol.

The Committee would be able to request the State party concerned to take specific measures to remedy violations of CEDAW. Requests might include the amendment of legislation, stopping discriminatory practices, and implementing affirmative action measures.

The 'fantastic' Buglasan Festival of Dumaguete

By Romy G. Amarado
Dumaguete City

RODEO competition, fireworks display, street dancing and "showdown" competition, with alluring booths portraying the uniqueness, wealth and creativity of every locality, mixed together, to produce a crowd-drawer show.

Blended with food and agricultural fairs, and nightly cultural shows featuring young and old talents, the result would be a great festival, a magnet to tourists and a certain source of income.

Such was this year's "Buglasan"—Negros Oriental's festival of festivals held Oct. 3 to 11, described by Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon as "fantastic."

From day one up to the culmination day, thousands of people from different walks of life, flocked to the capitol area to enjoy and be part of the phenomenal festivity.

THE CONTINGENT from Sibulan town danced their way to the grand prize in the Buglasan Festival's street dance and "showdown" competition. ROMY G. AMARADO

Buglasan is derived from the word "Buglas," the original name of Negros Oriental, which means reed or marsh grasses that used to abound in the province during the pre-Spanish era.

The festival, which depicts the cultural heritage of the Oriental Negrenses, was revived two years ago after a long hiatus due to lack of funding and interest among local officials. The successful holding of the festival since its revival in 2001, and its immense potential to the tourism industry in the province, prompted provincial officials to institutionalize it through an ordinance ensuring its yearly celebration whoever the officials of the province would be.

Convinced of the tourism potential of Buglasan, Gordon said the event should be used to attract tourists.

"Next year we should invite (tourists from) Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, China and Taiwan," Gordon said even as he underscored the need to have the event advertised.

Gordon, who was the guest of honor during the showdown competition, promised that his department would help advertise the festival.

Gov. George Arnaiz attributed the success of the festival to the cooperation of the people and their local officials.

"I am very happy that our mayors have set aside politics. They must have realized the imperative need to help develop our tourism industry to provide our people with income," Arnaiz said.

Provincial Board Member Mariant Escano-Villegas, chair of the Buglasan 2003 celebration, said the support of the different sectors undoubtedly contributed a lot to the success of the festival.

She said local officials were also very supportive, saying that of the 25 cities and municipalities of the province, 21 have participated in almost all activities. Some mayors even went to the extent of personally supervising the preparation of their booths and contingents to the different competitions.

"We would like to show that we are very serious in our cooperation with the provincial government whoever is the leader," Dauin Mayor Rodrigo Alanano said.

Alanano, whose town became famous because of its internationally known scuba diving spot Apo Island, added that winning in the contest is not their primary motivation, but cooperation and participation.

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Palace tried to stop it, but...

By Juliet L. Javellana

MALACAÑANG tried to stop the impeachment of Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., "but it was too late," a top Palace official said yesterday.

"*Sa Senado na lang ang habulan* (We'll play catch up in the Senate)," the official, who requested anonymity, said.

The official denied charges that Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. was "sacrificed" by the administration to keep its alliance with the Nationalist People's Coalition of businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. for the benefit of Ms Macapagal's candidacy.

"From a political and economic standpoint, it is Danding who will benefit here," the official told the INQUIRER.

The official said the President would not sacrifice Davide because she could not alienate the significant Cebuano vote.

The official said the impeachment was entirely Cojuangco's play, saying that the members of the ruling party Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats who reportedly signed the impeachment complaint were those who were supporting Cojuangco's presidential candidacy.

"He (Cojuangco) is a high-stakes player and he only has his interest to protect," the official said, noting there were several cases involving Cojuangco's business interest pending in the judiciary.

"Some people know that Danding is also involved in the negotiations of (opposition Sen. Edgardo) Angara to field FPJ (Fernando Poe Jr., for the presidential elections)," the source said. "He is playing both sides."

The official said Cojuangco would not have made this gambit if he was convinced that Ms Macapagal would win next year's elections.

"But if he thinks the President will not win, he will play it safe with FPJ," the source said.

The official said Malacañang, through its liaison and allies in Congress, tried to dissuade representatives from signing the impeachment complaint.

"They got wind of it but it was too late," the official said.

The official said the NPC leaders who initiated the impeachment kept the project a tight secret, so that when Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. and presidential legislative adviser Gabriel Claudio learned about it, it was too late to stop.

The official said the concerned officials "panicked" when they learned that the one-third signature of the House membership was about to be breached.

"Some people in Congress or Malacañang were apparently thinking that they (complainants) won't get the numbers or get past the technicality," the official said.

"If Malacañang will help (Davide), it will be done in the Senate," the official said.

Claudio said the accusation that Davide was sacrificed was unfair.

"The last thing we need now are intrigues of this sort," Claudio said in a phone interview.

"We have the highest esteem and admiration for the Chief Justice but this does not give us the license to interfere in a process and issue that properly and exclusively belongs to an independent branch of government," he said.

Claudio expressed the hope that the issue could still be resolved without going to trial.

"Personally, I'm still hoping that Congress and the Supreme Court, by themselves, can find a way to resolve this matter without going through the painful spectacle of an impeachment trial," Claudio said.

Can't put a good man down, Davide kin say

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Amid the furor created by the impeachment complaint lodged against Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., his family remains calm, collected and solidly behind him.

Members of his immediate family have decided to steer clear of public discussions on the issue, but two of his nieces, speaking on condition that they would not be named, said the family was confident that he would "overcome."

"You cannot put a good man down," they said, adding that he had not even contacted them to explain the controversy.

The Chief Justice was scheduled to attend the 10th biennial seminar convention of the Philippine Trial Judges League yesterday at the Bohol Tropics Resort Club in Tagbilaran City. But he merely sent a prepared speech that did not touch on the impeachment complaint.

Convention organizers declined to answer when asked about Davide's absence.

One of the Davide nieces said they were hurt by the allegations raised in the complaint because their family lived a simple life.

She said the family ancestral home in Argao, Cebu, has not even been renovated up to now, and the value of Davide's house in Manila did not amount to much.

The niece said Davide's five children had simple lifestyles. She said the fourth child, Noreen, also an employee of the Supreme Court, was just renting a house in Manila.

Davide's 98-year-old father, for whom he was named, is not aware of the controversy.

The Chief Justice last visited his father in September, but he usually does not talk about his job to the latter, the niece said. ***With a report from Chito A. Fuentes, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Solons urge Davide to quit...

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to him [Davide] to have an open mind. He should exercise judicial statesmanship and resign. That's the speediest option."

Rep. Prospero Nograles (Lakas, Davao City), who did not sign the impeachment complaint, added: "We cannot have an immovable object against an irresistible force.

"Instead of forcing a constitutional crisis by resisting impeachment, the Chief Justice may opt for an early retirement."

Rep. Magtanggol Gunigundo (Lakas, Valenzuela), another non-signatory, said Davide's resignation would spare him "further humiliation" and spare the country "the effects of having its Chief Justice undergoing trial."

While Davide avoided the media Thursday, he aired fighting words in a speech at the annual convention of the Philippine Judges Association in Manila.

He alluded to businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco as the one to blame for the current crisis besetting the judiciary.

"[The second impeachment complaint] is the most shameful and disgraceful act of a few in the House who are beholden to the whims and caprices of someone," Davide said, adding:

"The plotters of this evil scheme believe that this is the end of the Chief Justice. I say this is their end. They should cry for themselves. Grieve not for me. Let us grieve for our country.

"Amid the strife and turbulence of the moment, the judiciary—our judiciary—shall stand firm, tall and proud to discharge the duties and responsibilities bestowed upon it by the Constitution and the people. To paraphrase an old Chinese proverb, a mountain does not and will not bow to a storm."

Vengeance

Davide said the "plotters" of the complaint filed it after realizing that the first impeachment complaint against him and seven other justices of the tribunal was going to fail.

He said Cojuangco made it "a party matter" for the NPC.

"To deflect public attention from a defeat, the plotters concocted another evil plan by filing a second impeachment complaint against the Chief Justice alone based on his alleged technical malversation in relation to the JDF," Davide said.

"I have been reliably informed that many agreed to endorse it without having read the complaint and with undisguised threats of withdrawal of Danding support for and during the May 2004 elections," he said.

Davide also said the complaint was used as "a lever for both political and economic advantage and an instrument to exact vengeance" on him.

He added: "This second complaint is designed to maliciously remove from the [House] committee on justice the investigation of the JDF, which I had denounced in my letters to the Speaker [Jose de Venecia] and to Rep. Felix William Fuentebella, as an unprecedented breach of the doctrine of separation of powers, attack on judicial independence, and abuse of the rules on investigation in aid of legislation."

'Sordid spectacle'

Rep. Abraham Mitra (LDP, Palawan), a signatory to the complaint, said resignation was "a constitutional right of the Chief Justice."

But Mitra pointed out that it would not clear the air regarding Davide's alleged misuse of the JDF.

He said a possible compromise would be a speedy Senate trial, although he noted that such a trial could become "a sordid spectacle that can drag the entire nation down."

Rep. Didagen Dilangalen (PnM, Maguindanao), one of the three congressmen who endorsed the first impeachment complaint against Davide and seven other justices, said the Chief Justice "should not stay a minute longer."

Rep. Rolex Suplico (LDP, Iloilo), one of the 89 congressmen who impeached Davide, said: "This is the first time a Chief Justice has his hands caught in the cookie jar. He should resign."

Rep. Rodolfo Albano (Lakas, Isabela) said the number of 89 congressmen was way above the minimum required vote of 76 to assure the automatic transmittal of the impeachment complaint to the Senate.

"This is already beyond the House," he said.

But Velasco reiterated that the Senate should not entertain the second impeachment complaint because it was barred by the Constitution.

Khan said even the new House rules on impeachment ran contrary to the 1987 Constitution because these did not give ample protection to impeachable officials from harassment.

Velasco also debunked the complaint's assertion that Davide diverted P762.5 million from the JDF and, instead of giving it to judiciary members and personnel, disbursed it for "unlawful purposes."

He said this amount came from the 20 percent of the JDF that was intended for office equipment and facilities.

Under PD 1949, 80 percent of the JDF should go to the cost of living allowance of judiciary employees, and 20 percent, to office equipment and facilities. *With reports from Martin P. Marfil and Norman Bordadora*

Palace hit for failure ...

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Guingona said Davide's impeachment for the alleged misuse of the Judiciary Development Fund (JDF) was a "black eye to the Filipino nation."

Guingona said the first casualty of the controversy would be the economy. "The gauge of the effect is the foreign exchange rate . . . How much is the peso now?" he said. *(Story on Page A1.)*

He also said the involvement of certain political personalities in the issue was "more dangerous."

Asked if he thought the impeachment case might result in instability in the justice system, Guingona said this would depend on the developments in the coming days.

Personally, he said, he was "saddened" because Davide was his "companion since the ConCon [Constitutional Convention] days" and is "a man of integrity."

However, he added, the impeachment complaint should be looked into because more than 80 congressmen signed it.

Senior Associate Justice Josue Bellosillo said he and his fellow justices in the high court were concerned about the impeachment and hoped that it would be resolved soon.

"I don't really know the merits of the impeachment," Bellosillo said, adding:

"The chief is not a politician. This is very unfortunate. Hopefully, everything will be fixed for the benefit of the country."

Unconstitutional

In the opinion of Roco, De Villa and Osmeña, the impeachment of Davide would "harm the Filipino people and the legal system."

"The Supreme Court is the symbol of the rule of law and the final arbiter of justice. All patriotic Filipinos should rise to defend [it]," they said.

The Lawyers for Roco also said the impeachment of Davide was "unconstitutional" and "an assault on the Supreme Court's independence."

"It worsens the deficit of social trust in our institutions of government," the group said. "It weakens us all. These slash-and-burn tactics to gain political and economic power at the expense of our democratic institutions will fail."

The group also said that Malacañang had "failed the people" and that Congress had "abandoned the Constitution."

"Together, by design or furtive acquiescence, they push the Filipino people to the edge of a social and political crisis," it added. "As lawyers and Filipinos, we will not allow this. We will not be party to machinations to subvert the judiciary for political one-upmanship and private gain."

Always in crisis

Business leaders weighed in on the issue.

Francis Chua, executive vice president of the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said: "It is unfortunate that our country is always in crisis, especially at this point when each country is competing aggressively against one another with globalization. We might be able to weather through, as we always do, but we are likely to be left behind further."

According to Ernesto Santiago, executive director of the Semiconductor and Electronic Industries of the Philippines Inc., "too much politicking" would not do the business climate any good.

But Donald Dee, president of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines, viewed the impeachment of Davide as a boost to Philippine democracy.

"It shows that our democratic form of government works, and this will give our people hope in the system," Dee said.

Connivance

In Cebu City, Promdi's Osmeña expressed the belief that businessman Eduardo Cojuangco, founder of the Nationalist People's Coalition, had a hand in the impeachment complaint and that Speaker Jose de Venecia, president of the ruling Lakas, had "connived" with it.

Osmeña said Cojuangco wanted to get back at Davide for the high court's ruling declared the coconut levy fund as a public fund.

He also said the signatories to the impeachment complaint were after the "financial support" from Cojuangco for the May elections.

Jaime Dechos, executive director of the Leyte Chamber of Commerce and Industry, also raised the suspicion that political vendetta was behind the complaint.

He warned that the impeachment of Davide would "further alienate investors."

Lawyer Gerry Uy, president of the 500-strong Leyte Norte chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, said it was "wrong" for the House to impeach Davide, whom he described as "credible and enjoying high respect" in the judiciary.

Uy chided those who signed the complaint, saying it was tainted with politics and not based on valid grounds.

As Cebuanos closed ranks behind Davide and vouched for his honesty and integrity, they vented their ire on Representatives Joseph Ace Durano and Nerissa Soon-Ruiz for signing the complaint.

Radio stations were swamped with calls and text messages calling the two "traitors."

Osmeña said they were a "shame" to Cebuanos.

Protest actions

Judges and court employees nationwide announced plans to hold protest actions in support of the Chief Justice.

Members of the Philippine Judges Association (PJA) called a press conference to condemn the impeachment complaint as unconstitutional and a political ploy against Davide and the judiciary. ***Reports from Philip Tubeza, Alcuin Papa and Gil Cabacungan Jr. in Manila; Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Fritzie Joy Dungog, Jhunnex Napallacan, Kathy Navarro, Joey Gabieta, Nestor Burgos Jr. and Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Gloria-Danding plot, says Joker

From page A1

sion of those who signed the second complaint, which was filed by Rep. Gilbert Teodoro of Tarlac, the NPC leader in the House and Cojuangco's nephew, and Rep. Felix William "Wimpy" Fuentebella of Camarines Sur.

"The House is mandated to do that because they were able to meet the requirement of the Constitution for direct transmittal to the Senate of the impeachment complaint," De Venecia said.

"We're hoping that the Senate will be able to manage the trial with the least animosity in order not to add fuel to the fire," he said.

Teodoro yesterday said Cojuangco, the NPC founder, had nothing to gain from the impeachment case.

Teodoro acknowledged that his uncle has pending cases before the Supreme Court, most of them related to his allegedly ill-gotten wealth amassed during the reign of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

"But the first rule is that you don't antagonize the judge," said Teodoro, a lawyer.

Political marriage

Arroyo said that the President, being titular head of Lakas, the largest party in Congress, could have done something about the impeachment case.

"As President of the Philippines, she can stay neutral, but as Lakas head she had the duty to do what in her judgment was good and beneficial to Lakas," Arroyo said.

Having done nothing "under the pretext of neutrality," the President, Arroyo said, "made the judgment call that to allow the NPC to have its way with this impeachment was in the best interest of Lakas."

He said the NPC could not have mustered the numbers needed to have Davide impeached by the House by itself—and thus the entry of Lakas congressmen endorsing the complaint.

"Indeed, this is the political marriage of erstwhile political enemies Gloria and Danding at its crudest form," Arroyo said.

The man who gave validity to Ms Macapagal's assumption to power in 2001 and whose Supreme Court ruled on the coco levy funds "gave Gloria the crowbar to humble Danding into a political alignment," Arroyo said, was "left to fry by the way side."

1st impeach complaint

The senator noted that the first impeachment complaint filed against Davide and seven other justices for allegedly conspiring to swear in President Macapagal was filed early this year but Lakas and NPC "saw to it that it would be dismissed by a lopsided vote of 17-2 at the [justice] committee level."

Had this prospered, "the focus of attention would have been the highly controversial oath-taking and assumption to the presidency" by Ms Macapagal, he said.

Arroyo said that, in their rush to file their impeachment case, the congressmen behind this "forgot that the Judiciary Development Fund is still being investigated in the House and therefore, they cannot make out an impeachable case on that issue until they make a finding of irregularity and wrongdoing," Arroyo said.

The congressmen, he added, also forgot that the Constitution bars the initiation of impeachment proceedings against the same official more than once within a period of one year.

'Weapon of threat'

Some congressmen who admitted, on condition of anonymity, that Cojuangco was behind the case, said they didn't know what the businessman's intentions really are.

One lawmaker said that the case might be intended as a form of leverage to win favorable decisions on Cojuangco's pending cases.

"It could be a warning to other justices that they could suffer the same fate in the future," the first lawmaker said.

Another congressman disagreed, saying the filing of the case appeared to be a "form of punishment."

"It may be that a deal has been reached on a particular case but somebody did not deliver," the second lawmaker said.

Arroyo said much the same thing. "The impeachment complaint was unleashed *in terrorem* to teach and to warn the justices, present and future, 'You don't mess around with the Boss,'" Arroyo said.

"The otherwise sacrosanct impeachment process has been trivialized into a weapon of threat in a high-stakes court case and as an instrument for political arrangement in the 2004 presidential derby."

Withdrawal campaign

Rep. Celso Lobregat of Zamboanga City said the Speaker and his men tried but failed to sway those who signed the complaint to withdraw their signatures.

Among De Venecia's men who were seen moving around in the Session Hall Thursday night were Deputy Speaker for the Visayas Raul Gonzalez, Rep. Ruben Torres of Zambales, Rep. Benigno Aquino III and even House Deputy Secretary General Artemio Adaza.

Lobregat said he saw Cibac party-list Rep. Kim Bernardo-Lokin looking very harassed because Adaza was trying to persuade her to withdraw her signature.

Lokin said she had no intention of withdrawing her signature since it was her party's stand that there was sufficient basis to transmit the complaint to the Senate.

She said this would also give the Chief Justice the chance to clear his name.

"We're anti-corruption. We obviously have a job to do on anything about corruption. That is what we, in Cibac, stand for," Lokin explained.

Other congressmen said they also saw Aquino talking privately to Lokin.

In another corner of the hall, they said, Adaza was heard being castigated by Rep. Robert "Ace" Barbers of Surigao del Sur, who told him to stop talking to Lokin as this would compromise the position of the Speaker. The withdrawal campaign might upset Teodoro, who in turn might decide to break away from the coalition, Adaza was reportedly told.

Lobregat said De Venecia was never silent on the issue, saying the Speaker was about to issue a resolution expressing the sense of the House in support of Davide last Wednesday.

The Speaker, however, never circulated the resolution after sensing its defeat.

"The Speaker was never silent on this. In fact, he was silently moving. *Kaya lang di niya talaga kaya* (But he really couldn't stop it)," Lobregat said.

He pointed out that Adaza would not talk to Lokin and other congressmen without De Venecia's consent.

Davide was being charged for his alleged mismanagement of the P3-billion Judiciary Development Fund.

To tackle Monday

The House yesterday afternoon included in its order of business the impeachment complaint against Davide but failed to officially transmit it to the Senate last night.

Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri (Lakas, Bukidnon), one of those who signed the impeachment complaint, noted that there was no quorum with only more than 90 lawmakers at the session hall.

Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales II (Lakas, Mandaluyong) said the impeachment complaint will be tackled Monday. ***With reports from Carlito Pablo and Juliet Javellana***

Erap coming home to Mama

From page A1

Estrada was also given permission to go for a medical examination at the Makati Medical Center for lower back pain.

First time

It will be the first time in two-and-a-half years for the ousted leader to set foot in his exclusive North Greenhills neighborhood. Heavily armed policemen took him away from his posh residence at No. 1 Polk St. on April 25, 2001 to answer corruption charges.

In a resolution issued last night, the anti-graft court allowed the 66-year-old Estrada to leave his latest detention quarters at a military camp in Tanay, Rizal, at 5 a.m. tomorrow to visit his mother, Mary Marcelo Ejercito, who lives four blocks away from his Polk Street residence.

But he was ordered to be back at Camp Capinpin by Monday afternoon.

The court denied Estrada's request to be allowed to spend the night at his Polk house after the visit, saying it was "unnecessary." This means he will be sleeping over at his mother's Kennedy St. residence.

The court said only members of his immediate family can see Estrada at his mother's house.

The special division trying Estrada for plunder approved the special pass after Dr. Larry Hocson, the ex-President's nephew and family doctor, testified that his mother was in a "very unstable" condition.

"At her age, anything can happen," Hocson said of Ejercito, who was recently confined at the San Juan Medical Center for heavy coughing, which the doctor explained was an early symptom of pneumonia.

He added that Ejercito, who has been confined to her bed since being discharged from hospital on Oct. 8, may also be susceptible to a stroke.

Abdominal aneurysms

He said Ejercito has also developed three abdominal aneurysms, anyone of which could burst. She can die within three minutes, Hocson said.

Hocson said Estrada will be undergoing a "computerized tomography magnetic resonance imaging" test at the MMC beginning at 1 p.m. on Monday. The test will take up to three hours.

From the MMC, Estrada will be taken straight back to Camp Capinpin.

Estrada, who openly admits to being the black sheep of the Ejercito family, had asked for a 72-hour furlough on Wednesday.

State prosecutors did not object, saying Estrada's request merited consideration in deference to "Filipino culture." But they insisted that a 24-hour pass would do.

No. 1 fan

In various media forums, the former movie star would refer to his mother as his "No. 1 movie fan" in contrast to his father who strongly disapproved of his joining show business.

He said it was his mother who explained to him in his youth why his father Emilio spent so many hours in prayer each day. She said it was because the Ejercito patriarch needed to say more prayers for him than for all his other siblings. Estrada is the 8th child in a brood of 10.

Political woes spook peso, stock market

From page A1

ment case against Davide, a highly respected figure, weighed down both the currency and stock markets.

Overshadow good news

"The impeachment case against Davide has overshadowed the good news that the Philippines has been elected to the United Nations' Security Council ... This, coupled with other political developments, seems to indicate to investors they are looking at a government that is politically unstable," said Gomer Tan of Regina Capital Development.

Davide, who presided over the botched impeachment trial against former President Joseph Estrada, was impeached Thursday by a third of the House of Representatives—mostly members of the opposition bloc—for alleged misuse of public funds. The Senate will now decide whether to convene as a court and remove him from his post.

Scary

"It's something that disturbs the market. What's scary is the timing and obviously, because it is happening now, it adds political color," said Unicapital Securities head of research Enrique Claudio.

"Instabilities like these will often lead to discouragement in investments," Claudio said.

Earlier this week, the main index climbed to an 18-month high of 1,386.09 and appeared ready to test the 1,400 resistance. However, this was spoiled in mid-week by fresh political uncertainties.

ATR-Kim Eng Securities economist Luz Lorenzo said she personally thought the impeachment initiative against Davide was a "nuisance case" which would not likely prosper.

"You are impeaching someone at the same level as the President. In the case of Estrada, where there was enough reason to suspect, it was difficult to pursue. How much more for somebody like Davide?" Lorenzo said.

The knee-jerk reaction in the market, Lorenzo said, was negative as this was similar to the suspension order against Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura. After a while, she said the jitters were not likely to persist.

Unaffected

AB Capital research director Jose Vistan Jr., however, said the business community was largely unaffected by the recent developments on the political front.

"I don't think the business community minds. Lately, the Supreme Court made decisions that have been anti-business and unpopular," Vistan said.

Some traders attributed the market's slight weakness to jitters on reports that another action movie star will run in and likely win next year's presidential race.

Eagle Equities Inc. president Joseph Roxas said reports that action star Fernando Poe Jr. might join the presidential race was causing jitters to the market.

"What is a bigger concern for the market is the leadership change after the 2004 elections," Roxas said.

High-level opposition officials are courting Poe, widely known as FPJ, to run under a united opposition banner, with some senators predicting he will announce in the coming days his intention to stand in next May's polls.

Formidable foe

Poe, who has no background in economics or politics, is seen as a formidable opponent for President Macapagal-Arroyo, although some believe he is tainted by his close friendship with former President Joseph Estrada, currently being detained on charges of economic plunder.

"Investors continue to exhibit caution following recent news reports of a probable FPJ candidacy in next year's presidential elections," said BPI Securities investment analyst Spencer Yap. "This renewed cautiousness cut short what had been a steady rise toward resistance at 1,400."

"History has shown that investors will eventually discount this current uncertainty," Yap said. "As the market tests support ... at 1,360 then 1,330, we can expect buying support to again strengthen."

Uncertainties

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the peso could weaken to an average of P55 next year due to political anxieties in the run-up to the May 2004 elections.

"This is not a target because the BSP does not set a target," Buenaventura stressed. He admitted though that a lower average for the local currency compared to P53 to P54 this year was set due to anticipated political uncertainties next year.

Since the start of the year to Oct. 21, the peso has averaged at P53.94.

The peso breached the P55 level days ago after weeks of trying to recover in the P54 level due to buying pressures caused by unending politics as well as corporate demand mainly due to dollar requirements of Globe Telecom.

Traders said Globe's purchase of shares from Deutsche Telekom required $250 million in dollars, most of which were bought from the spot market.

"Of course we could not discount Davide's impeachment, the political posturing like the plan of Fernando Poe to run, and the unsolved Jose Pidal controversy in the equation," said a trader from a foreign bank.

"The bulk of the pressure recently is really coming from corporate demand because of the Globe transaction. Then, there is also the typical political news that creates uncertainty like reports on terrorist threats," said Buenaventura.

BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the central bank stayed out of the market yesterday even as turnover reached $145.2 million compared to $136 million on Thursday.

Intervention tools

"The central bank has several tools to use against speculation on the currency. But we will not use intervention unless inflation is being threatened by a downward movement in the exchange rate," said Tetangco.

At the local bourses, analysts expect buying interest to return soon in anticipation of upbeat corporate earnings for the third quarter.

The country's two largest banks, Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company (Metrobank) and Bank of the Philippine Islands, are releasing their third-quarter reports on Oct. 30.

The country's biggest telephone firms, industry leader Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) and second-ranked Globe Telecom Inc. are announcing third-quarter results in the first week of November.

Value turnover yesterday dropped to P502.02 million from Thursday's P1.03 billion. In the broader market, losers beat gainers 46 to 16 with 35 stocks unchanged.

Actively traded

PLDT, the country's biggest telecoms firm, was the most actively traded issue on reports that it expects to hit its 2003 profit target of P9 billion to P10 billion. PLDT rose 1.37 percent or P10 to P740.

Globe Telecom, which is jointly owned by Philippine conglomerate Ayala Corp. and Singapore Telecommunications, added P5 or 0.68 percent at P745.

Ayala Corp., the country's largest conglomerate whose income driver is Globe Telecom, gained P5 to P745. Metrobank rose 50 centavos or 1.82 percent to P28. *With INQUIRER wires*

PNP chief likens self to Jesus Christ

From page A1

rorist Fathur Roman al-Ghozi last July, yesterday announced a top-to-bottom revamp of the police organization that will target many senior police officials.

The PNP chief said the purpose of the latest revamp is to strengthen "strategic police operations" whose failure he blamed on veteran police officials "who are more concerned about retiring than protecting their commands."

Ebdane said he had been absorbing criticisms against the police for these senior officers' failures, including Al-Ghozi's escape from a Camp Crame jail.

"*Para akong si Jesus Christ. Ako ang tagasalo* (I'm like Jesus Christ. I get all the blame)," he said at a press conference in Camp Dangwa, Benguet province yesterday.

Taking the heat

Ebdane said he accepts that part of his role as national police chief was to "take the heat" for his men's failures or accept "a feather in my cap for their successes."

But he said he had to assume full operational control over the hunt for Al-Ghozi to redeem the credibility of the national police force, implying that senior officers had failed him.

The success of the manhunt for Al-Ghozi, who was killed in a gun battle in North Cotabato early this month, gave Ebdane the confidence to launch the revamp which Interior Secretary Jose Lina Jr. confirmed on Tuesday.

To be affected are officers in charge of regional, provincial and municipal commands who have either exceeded their two-year tours of duty, have pending administrative cases or have been petitioned for relief by the communities where they are serving.

Younger officers

Ebdane said he would be appointing younger police officers to the police commands, noting that a series of police encounters with communist rebels had proven to him that younger officers perform much better than senior ones.

"There will be complaints about seniority ... but I want to deliver results," said Ebdane, adding that seniority was only one of the qualifications for police commanders.

Like the Al-Ghozi manhunt, Ebdane said many of the police force's success stories nowadays were being "delivered" by young officers.

He cited the junior police officer who held together his small police station in Siocon, Zamboanga del Sur, after it was attacked by communist rebels on May 4.

Ebdane also cited three junior officers who protected their chief of police when about 100 New People's Army rebels stormed their station in North Cotabato.

Young police officers also saved a police station in Camarines Norte from an attack by 80 communist rebels recently, he said.

"But not all senior officers are to be faulted. There was a veteran non-commissioned police officer who also protected his unit from rebels in a recent encounter," he said.

Ebdane later somewhat softened his stance, saying that most police operational failures cannot be blamed on those assigned to the operation.

He cited the case of a Benguet police officer who was charged with homicide for the death of a teenager while participating in a manhunt for a robbery gang.

Policeman Edgar Dawag has been charged with fatally shooting Efren Agsayang Jr., 19, a resident of Barangay Tabbak, Mankayan.

Dawag, who is out on bail, was a member of a police team searching for armed men who killed six Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. employees on Sept. 21 and stole a gold bar worth P13 million.

Clamor for resignation

Referring to the clamor for his resignation, Ebdane said he was proud of the manhunt that resulted in Al-Ghozi's death.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had refused to succumb to pressure to replace Ebdane after the Indonesian terrorist's escape.

But he said his continued stay at the head of the PNP would depend on what the President decides.

He said it was only the rebellious soldiers behind the July 27 failed coup who were demanding his resignation.

"They are not even police officers. If it was police officers who were demanding my resignation, I tell you I would have [resigned] in a second. I had already prepared three documents [announcing] my resignation," Ebdane said.

Danding out of 2004 poll derby

From page A1

liance with the LDP, was the one who had been pushing for a Cojuangco candidacy.

Zero in on FPJ

"Angara has given up on Cojuangco and is now zeroing in on FPJ," said Padilla, whose group supports the candidacy of Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

But Tarlac Rep. Agapito Aquino, LDP secretary general, questioned Angara's secret negotiations with Poe without the knowledge of the committee of five, of which Aquino is a member.

In a letter to Angara dated Oct. 14, Aquino protested the lack of transparency in the conduct of negotiations with Poe. Aquino also supports Lacson.

Escape clause

"Is the difference of opinion in the opposition's standard-bearer so insurmountable that we are beginning to lose our friendship and goodwill?" Aquino wrote.

"We are leaders of a democratic party and the preference of a leader on any issue may influence some members of the party, but it cannot dictate the decision of the party," he added.

At the annual luncheon of the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines, held yesterday at the Dusit Hotel in Makati City, the President brushed off questions about Poe or next year's elections.

"I am here as President, not as candidate," President Macapagal-Arroyo said.

Ms Macapagal invoked her escape clause three times during the two-hour luncheon. She said Focap, composed of Manila-based foreign journalists, invited her as President and not as a candidate to answer political questions.

But in the same breath, the President trumpeted her advantage of experience and having had close interaction with world leaders.

"Experience is the best teacher. Reason can lead you astray but experience never," she said of the most important lessons she learned in her two and a half years as President.

Reconciliation

Ms Macapagal also stressed her desire for reconciliation between components of Edsa II, which propelled her to the presidency, and Edsa III, which fought for her ousted predecessor Joseph Estrada.

She said reconciliation was what this divided country needed. She noted that between the communist rebels and the rightist putschists are people who hanker for democracy; between the Muslim rebels and the anti-Muslims are people who want peace.

"You have on one side the rabid Edsa Dos, you have on the other side Edsa Tres but in the middle you have people who want reconciliation," she said.

Ms Macapagal said that, in addressing various forums, she gets the loudest applause when she says she felt the people want her to be the President of both Edsa II and Edsa III.

"And that is what I'm trying to carry out and that's what I will continue to carry out," she said.

Unifying party

Asked how, she explained: "As far as Edsa Dos and Edsa Tres, while we follow the rule of law, we must also try to look for avenues of reconciliation and here I am being guided, as I am guided by the bishops and the ulamas on the MILF process, I'm being guided also by the bishops in the process of reconciling society between Edsa Dos and Tres."

Top NPC officials said the time has come to understand the party for what it really was: neither opposition nor pro-administration.

"Unifying party" is the more apt term, they told the INQUIRER.

With national interest in mind, unifying political groups with different ideologies is the NPC's "noble mission," Isabela Gov. Faustino Dy said, adding: "it's very positive."

Lacson had earlier tagged the NPC as a "neither here nor there" party.

"The NPC remains a conservative political group but that does not prevent it from forging alliances with other parties and becoming a unifying factor in the process," Dy said.

NPC president Frisco San Juan reinforced Dy's views, stressing "the current situation calls for a different kind of political party, one that is capable of unifying partnerships or engaging itself in the healing process."

NPC members were given by the party's central committee until last Oct. 15 to make recommendations on whether to strengthen its alliance with the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats and other pro-administration parties, or join the united opposition. *With reports from Juliet Javellana and Jerry Esplanada*

Senate coup in the offing; Villar denies . . .

From page A1

ment trial.

"It's purely politics," he said.

"But the question is, will the Wednesday Group agree to go to bed with the likes of (Panfilo) Ping Lacson, (Gregorio) Gringo Honasan and (Luisa) Loi Estrada?" he asked.

Wednesday group

The members of the Wednesday Group ran under the administration's People Power Coalition in the 2001 senatorial elections, but lately have been complaining about how the ruling party, Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats, always ended up speaking for the coalition.

The group has decided to consult other PPC members to decide who they will support for president.

No way

A member of the opposition in the Senate said he heard about the supposed coup from a member of the majority bloc yesterday. But he doubted if it could be pulled off considering that some senators in the majority and minority blocs were not the type who would consider an alliance with one another.

For instance, he said, it would be impossible for Sen. Edgardo Angara and Arroyo to ever join forces. He pointed out that the two men have clashed several times on various issues, the latest of which was their respective committees' contrasting opinions on the right to privacy of Ignacio Arroyo.

He said he also could not imagine Estrada supporting Villar when the latter had been instrumental in ousting her husband, deposed President Joseph Estrada, when Villar was the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Noli-Loren

The first source, the member of the Senate majority bloc, said De Castro was bent on running for president, apparently with Sen. Loren Legarda as his running-mate.

Legarda bolted the Lakas-CMD but has decided to remain with the majority bloc.

At present, Drilon has the support of 11 senators—Legarda, Villar, Arroyo, Recto, Pangilinan, De Castro, Juan Flavier, Robert Barbers, Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Ramon Revilla and Robert Jaworski.

The minority is made up of Senators Angara, Vicente Sotto III, Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Lacson, Estrada, Teresa Aquino-Oreta, Honasan, Serge Osmeña, Rodolfo Biazon and John Osmeña.

For a change in leadership to succeed, the contender for Senate president needs the support of 13 senators.

Meanwhile, Magsaysay said he was not aware of any coup plot in the Senate. He said it would not be a wise move at this time because it might affect the image of the Senate negatively.

Armed men kidnap boy in Quezon City

By Tina Santos and Edson Tandoc Jr.

THE GRANDSON of a doctor on Thursday was kidnapped while he was on his way to school in Quezon City.

At least five armed men blocked the Nissan Patrol belonging to the family of the boy, 14, right inside the University of the Philippines campus in Diliman, Quezon City, according to a police report released yesterday.

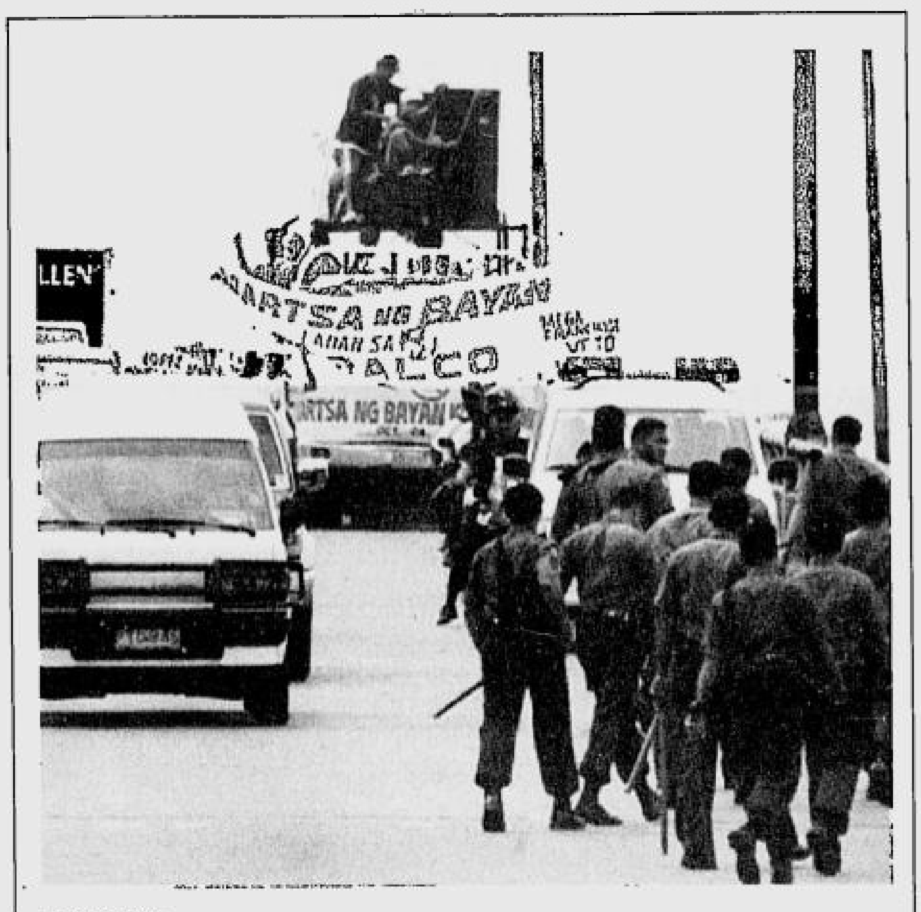
Investigators said Maurice Lopez, 25, was driving the victim and 2 other children, aged 9 and 14, to school when the armed men in a red vehicle blocked the Patrol on the corner of Jacinto and C.P. Garcia Streets in Diliman at 6:05 a.m.

Police said the kidnappers jumped out of their vehicle, shot the windshield of the Patrol and forced the children and driver to the backseat of their vehicle. The men then blindfolded the victims and drove away in the two vehicles.

At 8 a.m., barangay watchmen of Malinta, Valenzuela City saw the Patrol parked on MacArthur Highway. Inside, they saw the handcuffed children and driver. The driver told police that the kidnappers took the doctor's grandson.

Central Police District Chief Supt. Napoleon Castro told the INQUIRER that the victim's family has shown reluctance in cooperating with the police.

Shanty folk get real chance to own homes



ZAPPED
Anti-riot policemen block demonstrators as these descend the Edsa-Ortigas flyover leading to the headquarters of the Manila Electric Company along Ortigas Avenue in Pasig City. The rally participants yesterday lambasted the power company for seeking a new round of rate hikes. JOAN BONDOC

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

A NEW house, new life, new community.

The Valenzuela government and a non-government organization are bent on turning their words into action by providing homes to thousands of people who live along the railways in the city.

Gawad Kalinga and the local government yesterday launched the partnership, with city and school officials, businessmen and civic groups pledging their support to the project.

The planned community will be named Nayong Kasarival, and the beneficiaries would be families living along the Philippine National Railways. Kasarival, short for Kapisanan ng mga Samahan sa Riles ng Valenzuela, is composed of 11 neighborhood organizations.

The first part of the project will benefit 1,167 families, who will be relocated in a new community in Bignay, Valenzuela. The National Housing Authority and the Housing and Urban Development and Coordinating Council will purchase the 68,000-square kilometer relocation site.

Gawad Kalinga is a multi-sectoral organization founded in Bagong Silang, Caloocan in 2001. It aims to build "700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in 7 years," according to a statement.

In three years, Gawad Kalinga has built 4,000 homes in 2,000 new communities in numerous provinces all over the country, including Maguindanao, Cotabato and the Visayas. It has also established communities in Smokey Mountain in Manila, and at the Payatas dumpsite in Quezon City.

Valenzuela is Gawad Kalinga's first partner in Metro Manila.

Members and partners of Gawad Kalinga share their money, time and labor in building houses—all painted with bright colors to signify hope.

While the sponsors would provide the materials, the homeowners themselves would get to build their own houses and that of their neighbors.

Luis Oquinena, Gawad Kalinga's national coordinator, said this would instill the spirit of "Bayanihan" among the new homeowners, improving not only their colorful houses but their morale and character as well.

Those who live in crowded and dirty slum areas think and act like squatters, Oquinena said. He added that they hope to change that not only by giving them homes, but by empowering them as well.

Mayeth Guibao, 36, resident of Smokey Mountain, said Gawad Kalinga had made a big difference in their community.

"Even if we are poor, we are taught that we can do something," Guibao said in Filipino. "They did not just give us a new house, they also gave us hope."

Jess Cawaling, 59, Kasarival vice president, said the project would "restore their dignity." He added it would also turn their community into something more than just a haven for fugitives and drug offenders.

The Valenzuela project will formally begin on Nov. 30, with the construction of the first houses. City Mayor Bobbit Carlos has pledged to sponsor 200 houses.

Why FPJ should not be president

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

I WAS an avid fan of Fernando Poe Jr. when I was in high school. How fast he was with his fists and with his .45-caliber pistol! He symbolized an oppressed man driven to a corner and forced to fight his oppressors, and then winning in the end.

Although I no longer go to Filipino movies, I am still a big fan of The King because of the way he talks with strangers. FPJ puts you at ease when you meet him for the first time. He is soft spoken and humble; he doesn't talk big, because he no longer has anything to prove.

The second time I met him, he praised me for publicly apologizing to a public official I criticized wrongly on the TV show, "Action 9," which I hosted with Dong Puno and Rey Langit. "*Pinakita mo lang na lalake ka, erap* (You showed that you're a man, my friend)," he commented.

* * *

That's why it hurt when I had to be on the other side on the issue of whether he should run for President at GMA 7's "Debate" show late Thursday night. I took the side that he should not run.

Although I was facetious in my argument against him running for the highest post of the land, some of my friends who watched the show said I was unfair to FPJ. Why? Because I hit at his weaknesses, comparing him to his bosom buddy, detained former President Erap. In short, I was no longer dealing on issues, I was already being personal.

But I couldn't help it. The highest post of the land should be reserved for the best and the brightest. Intelligent leaders who will sacrifice personal comfort in order to serve the people. Leaders who are willing to be ostracized by friends and relatives who couldn't get favors from them.

* * *

The mountaintop is a lonely spot. Leaders of men become loners because of the nature of their position.

If FPJ becomes president, he will be surrounded by sycophants who will extract favors from him. FPJ is the kind of person who will give in to favor-seeking friends just like his bosom buddy Erap.

Erap was destroyed by friends and relatives who took advantage of his kindness, generosity and naiveté. The Tagalog word for naiveté is *nagpapauto*.

FPJ and Erap are both *uto-uto sa mga kaibigan at kamag-anak* (easily swayed by friends and relatives).

* * *

If you think that the poor benefited from Erap's presidency, you're naive like him.

The poor were just given the crumbs during the Erap administration. Erap's gambling and drinking buddies got the big deals. They stole money belonging to the people.

While Erap made a big show of eating with squatter families on his birthday, his heart was really with his rich friends waiting for him in Malacañang, ready with hundreds of bottles of red wine costing P120,000 each.

* * *

Why do I mention Erap when I'm writing about FPJ?

Because Erap and FPJ are like twins. They have the same weaknesses and predispositions. They like to wine and dine. The only difference between them is that FPJ is more discreet in his relations with women, unlike his friend who is *garapal* (showy).

Because Erap and FPJ have the same habits, the same temperament, practically the same educational attainment (both didn't finish college), and the same circle of friends, chances are FPJ will run the country like Erap did.

* * *

Come to think of it, Erap and FPJ speak English the same way.

Old hands at the National Press Club recall the time FPJ was having a drunken tiff with the late journalist Ambo Baretto at the NPC bar.

The quarrel was patched up. FPJ apologized to Baretto, but because the latter was drunk like him, the journalist kept berating the actor who was a guest at the NPC.

"I already apology to you. Why still talking and talking (in Tagalog, that would have been translated into, *Humingi na ako ng patawad sa iyo, bakit ka pa salita ng salita*)?"

* * *

At the Debate show, my "anti" fellow panelist, Rick Abcede of the Filipino Lawyers for Good Governance (Filgood) pointed out that if top career government officials were required to have civil service eligibility and the highest education possible, why can't this country require its President to be highly educated?

Abcede hit the nail on the head. For how can FPJ face his educated counterparts in other countries, how can he manage the economy, how can he govern well, how can he run the fractious military and police, if he doesn't have the experience and education in governance?

A leader shouldn't only have charisma, which FPJ is oozing with; he or she should also be highly competent.

I submit FPJ is highly competent as an actor. In fact, he has no equal, that's why he's called "The King."

But he will surely fail miserably, as did Erap his bosom buddy, if he ventures into the strange field of politics. If FPJ hasn't even been a barangay chairman, how can you expect him to run the whole nation?

METROBRIEFS

Slain in Taytay

REYNALDO Cerilla and Mary Joy Aquino yesterday were killed in what police described as a robbery in their rented house on San Lorenzo Ruiz Street, Barangay San Juan, Taytay, Rizal. A third person, Roni Gene, was wounded in the shooting and was taken to the Pasig General Hospital, police said. The suspect fled when neighbors rushed to the victims' house at around 2 a.m. *Alcuin Papa*

Duped in Divisoria

WIDOW Felicidad Valiente, 73, on Thursday lost her jewelry and savings to two pretty women and an old man in Divisoria, Manila. SPO2 Mario Salonga said Valiente, of Tondo, Manila, was sweet talked into selling her jewelry, worth P70,000. The suspects also persuaded Valiente to withdraw her life savings of P50,000 and invest it in a quick-rich scheme. *Leila Salaverria*

Shot in Tondo

JONATHAN Anasco, 29, and Paul Dayuno, 28, yesterday morning shot it out in front of the San Roque Church in Tondo, Manila. Anasco, of Balut, Tondo, went looking for his neighbor Dayuno, after they engaged in a heated exchange at a common friend's birthday party. When Anesco encountered Dayuno in front of the church, he used a homemade shotgun to shoot the suspect. When the victim missed, Dayuno drew his gun, and fled, said SPO1 David Tuazon. *Leila Salaverria*

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MECHANICS

1. Every purchase of the following Honda motorcycle models entitles the buyer to a raffle ticket* that would give him / her a chance to win any of these corresponding prizes in the grand raffle draw:

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A. Honda Wave Alpha	Honda CR-V
B. Honda Wave 125 or Dream 125	Honda Civic VTi
C. Honda XRM Dual Sports	Honda City

* The raffle ticket must be completely filled up with buyer's name, address, telephone number, engine-frame number, dealer's name, date of purchase and signature affixed. The stub must be dropped in the corresponding raffle box among the three (3) designated drop boxes at the dealer shop. If the raffle ticket is dropped in the wrong drop box, this entry is automatically invalid. Also, the buyer instantly receives a gift certificate worth P 300, which can be used as a discount on the next unit purchase, on spare parts or motorcycle accessories.

2. Grand Raffle Draw will be held in Eat Bulaga on December 19, 2003 under the supervision of a DTI representative. Deadline for dropping of entries is on December 15, 2003
3. Purchase of the Honda motorcycle models, indicated above, must be made at any participating Honda dealer nationwide, from September 10, 2003 up to December 15, 2003, in order to qualify for the promo.
4. Any participant can win only once in the grand draw. If name is drawn more than once, he/she gets the bigger prize and the lower prize shall be raffled off again. The name appearing in the winning raffle ticket will be declared as the winner.
5. Winners will be notified through registered mail. When claiming prizes, winners shall present 2 valid ID's, registered mail notice, together with the sales invoice and / or LTO registration of the motorcycle unit purchased
6. All raffle prizes should be claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification or the prizes will be forfeited, with the prior approval from DTI.
7. All winners should claim their prizes at any of the following offices of Honda Philippines, Inc.: a) Km. 17 East Service Road, South Superhighway, Parañaque City; b) Lahug, Cebu City; and c) Buhangin, Davao City
8. The decision of Honda Philippines, Inc., with the concurrence of DTI, on issues that may arise during the promotion will be deemed final.
9. All prizes are tax-free and are not convertible to cash. Also, all registration requirements of the prize should be the responsibility of the winner.
10. All employees of Honda Philippines, Inc., its affiliates, dealers, advertising agency, and their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified in the promo
11. Promo period is from September 10, 2003 up to December 15, 2003. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3758, Series of 2003.

FOUR DIGIT
4 7 6 5
(In exact order)

SUERTRES
8 2 8

MEGALOTTO 6/45
5 11 19 29 37 43

Uneasy calm falls on Malabon

VICENCIO

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

PEOPLE expected resistance but none was met yesterday as Malabon City Mayor Amado Vicencio quietly complied with the latest suspension order against him and paved the way for the take over of Vice Mayor Jayjay Yambao.

Nonetheless, security and preparedness for "possible scenarios" were the first order of the day after Yambao took office, the vice mayor's chief of staff, Melvin Cuevas, told the INQUIRER.

Officials of the Department of Interior and Local Government served the suspension order at about 8:30 a.m. yesterday and it was accepted by his office.

Yambao was then ordered to "assume the Office of the Mayor in acting capacity."

The vice mayor, whom Cuevas said was surprised with the speedy delivery of the DILG order, took his oath as acting mayor before noon.

Early this year, Vicencio's supporters barricaded City Hall for a week to block the serving of an earlier preventive suspension against the mayor.

But as of yesterday afternoon, city hall officials had not monitored any movements from the supporters of Vicencio.

The suspended mayor told the INQUIRER that he had appealed to his supporters to "just honor the order" as he consulted his legal advisers for the possibility of filing a motion for reconsideration or taking the case to the Court of Appeals.

According to the order of Malacañang, Vicencio is being suspended for one year because of "abuse of authority."

He had paid P12.6 million in advance for a resettlement site for Malabon residents affected by the North Rail project.

The mayor also entered into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the owner of the land without securing a certificate of appropriation from the city's chief accountant.

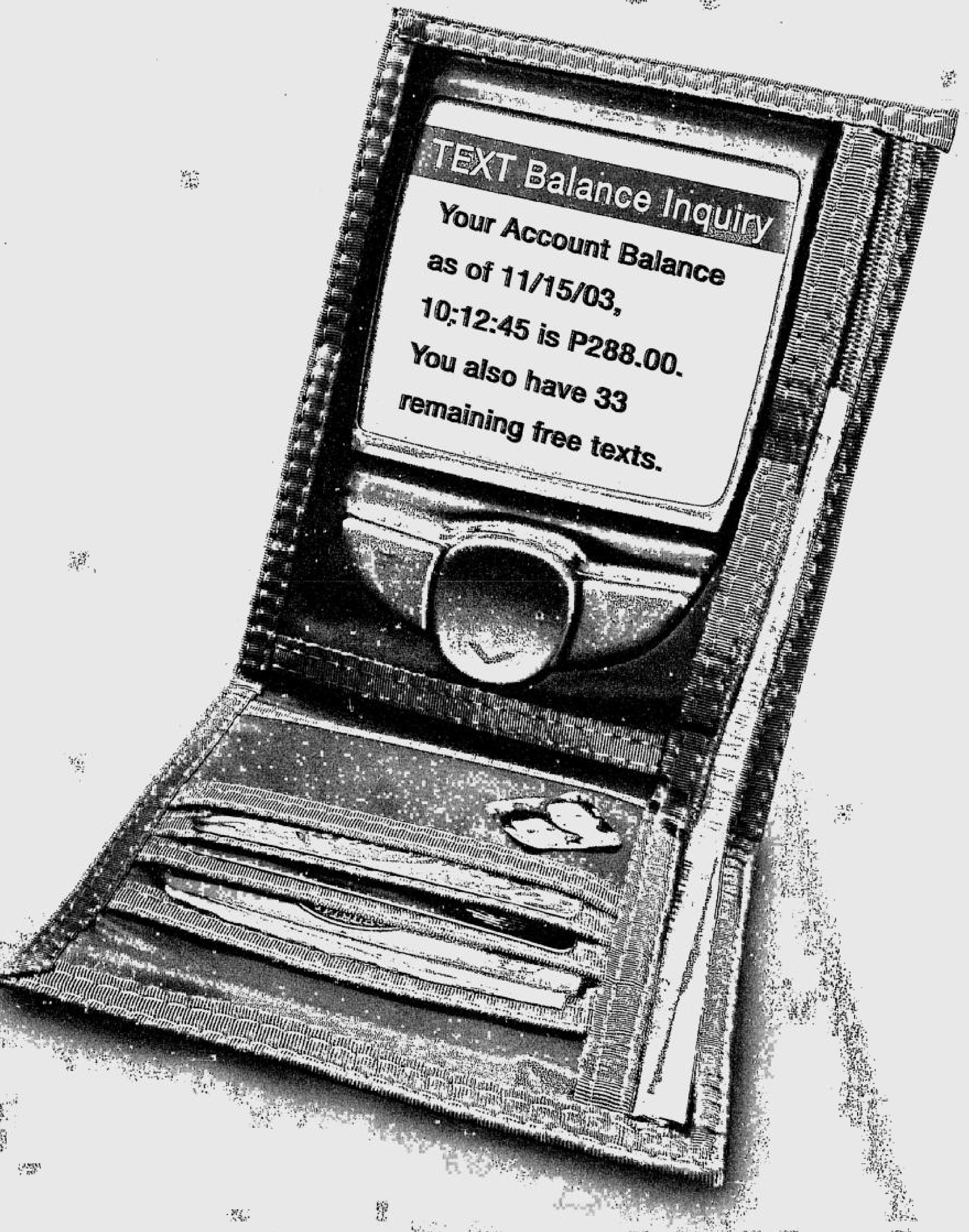
Employees at the Office of the Mayor were unusually quiet the entire day.

Photocopied posters saying, "We Love You Mayor Boy Vicencio" were pasted on the office's walls.

One employee said he was saddened by the development, saying Vicencio was a victim of politics in government.

The latest and longest suspension is the third for Vicencio during his present and last term, which has only eight months remaining.

budget check



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SPORTS TV
Compiled by L. Manguiat

HORSE RACING: The Breeder's Cup 2003; tomorrow at 2 a.m.; Solar Sports—Catch the live airing of one of the most anticipated horse races.
BASKETBALL: NBA Pre-season-Rockets vs Spurs; 8 a.m. (r-9 p.m.); Solar Sports—Houston and San Antonio engage in an all-Texas duel as the start of the regular season is just days away.
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WHAT'S INSIDE

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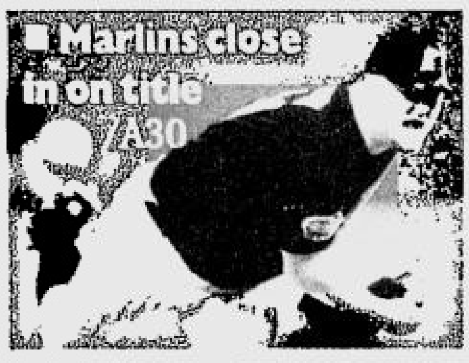

■ Marlins close in on title
/A30

GMA is guest as Palaro unfolds

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TUBOD, Lanao del Norte—The 2003 Palarong Pambansa, derailed thrice this year due to the MILF offensive in the region, finally gets going today with no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo declaring the Games open.

MACAPAGAL

The President is expected to deliver a message of peace during the opening rites at the world-class Mindanao Civic Center here to formally raise the curtains of the annual sportsfest among elementary and secondary students from public schools.

Lanao del Norte Gov. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo said this year's Palaro will be "full of symbolism and meaning."

"Finally, the people of Lanao del Norte can show the entire nation what our province can offer not only in terms of organizing sporting events but also in showcasing our culture and tourism," said Dimaporo.

She said the Palaro will serve as centerpiece of the ongoing peace process being observed by the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Just the same, the Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Roy Kiamco and his men are taking no chances. Southcom has deployed three battalions to ensure the safety of the more than 7,000 athletes and officials here.

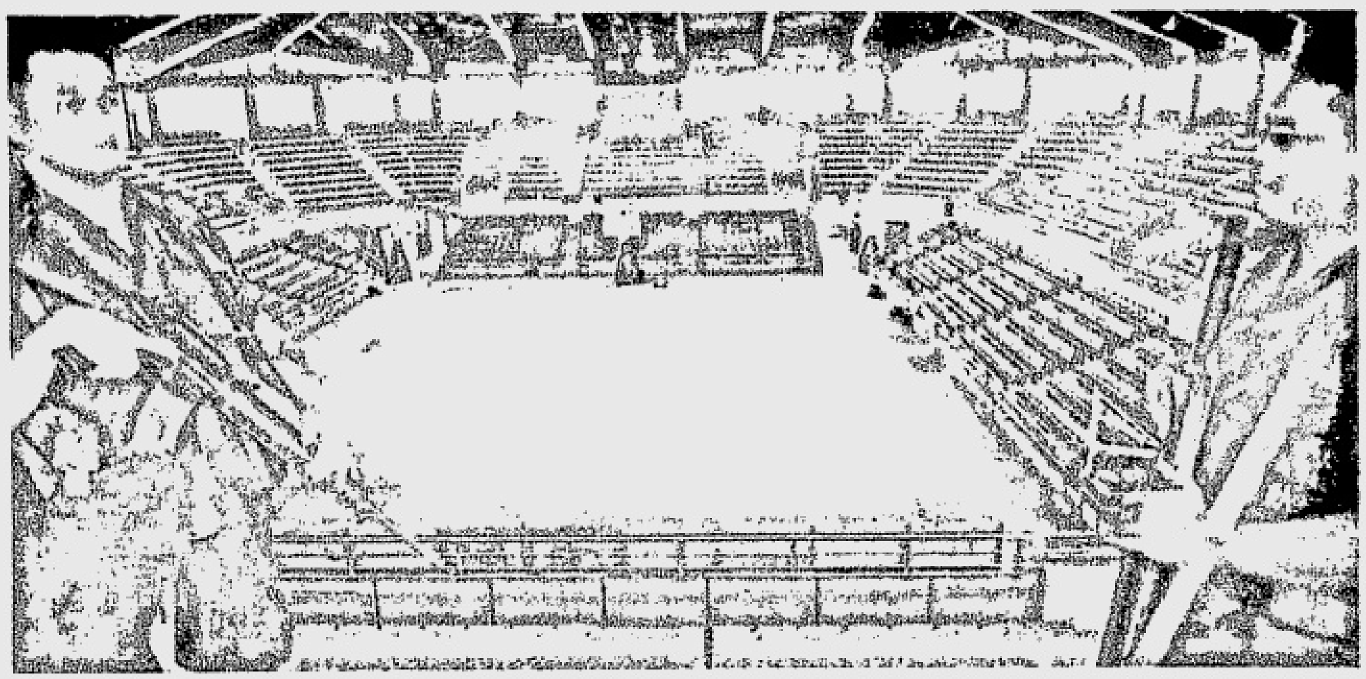
Under a security program dubbed Task Force Palaro, military and police have secured not only the playing and billeting venues but even the highways leading to the host town.

Despite assurances of their safety, three of the 17 regions won't be seeing action in the event where the Philippine Sports Commission hopes to tap future talents for the national squad.

The President is expected to arrive in Tubod at 10 a.m., in time for the ceremony which will also feature officials of the organizing PSC, led by chair Eric Buhain.

Underscoring the importance of the Palaro, Buhain said the event is part of Ms Macapagal's Mindanao National Initiative program to promote peace, progress and stability in the region.

"The staging of the Palaro in Mindanao is expected to be a unifying factor for Christians and Muslims because this endeavor is primarily for the country's youth. And government, especially the President, will do everything to fulfill that commitment to the youth," Buhain added.



PNP personnel stand guard at the basketball gym of the Palarong Pambansa 2003 in Tubod, Lanao del Norte. EDWIN BACASMAS

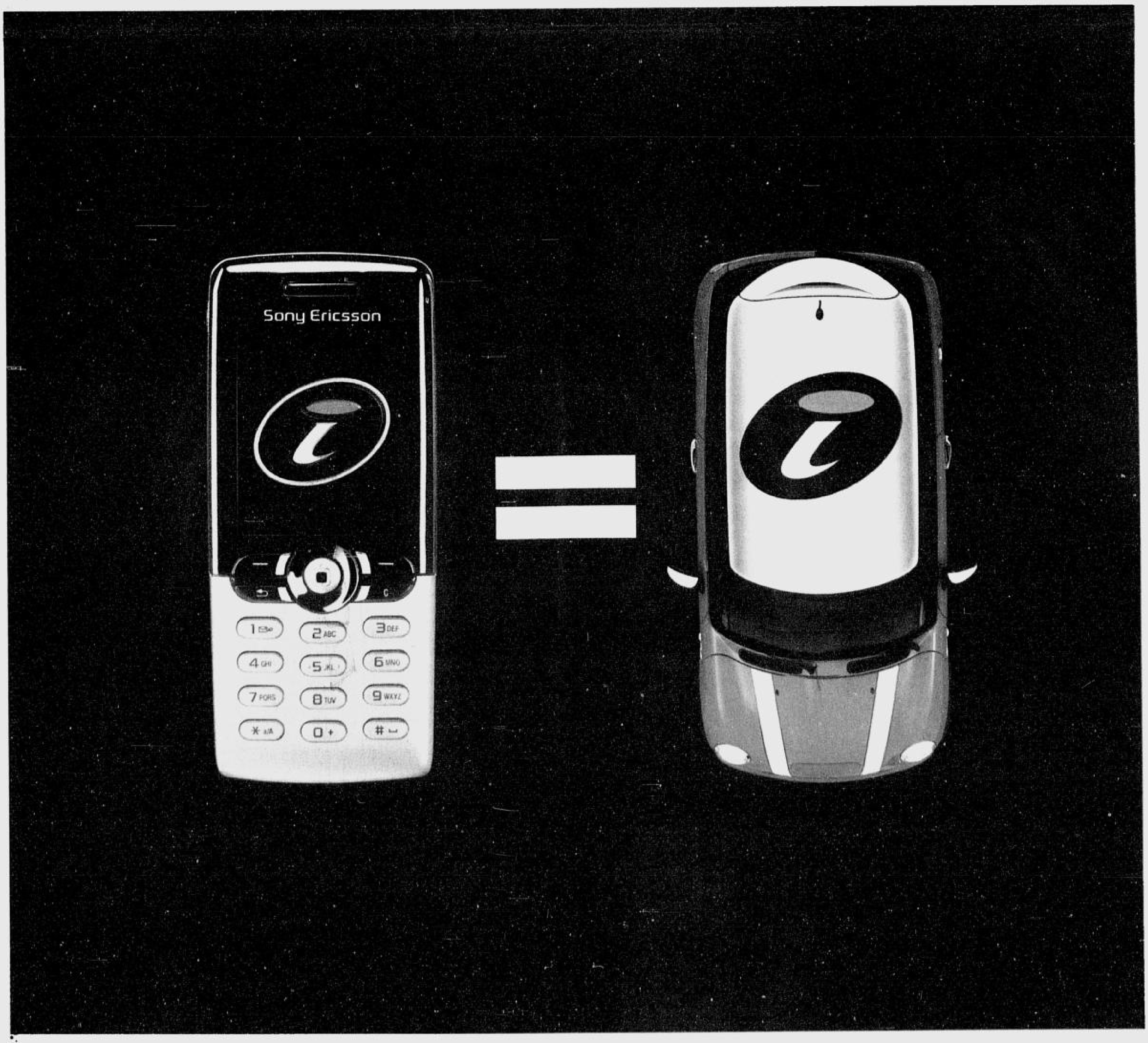
The Palaro was originally set last May but was reset due to fighting between the military and the MILF in two towns near Tubod.

Two more postponements followed before the President gave the PSC the go-signal to stage the Palaro as the government and MILF finally started peace negotiations.

"There are a lot of things to admire in Mindanao," said the Governor's husband and Lanao del Norte second district Rep. Abdullah Dimaporo. "Unfortunately, it is the fighting that made the headlines. This time, we get to show that this part of Mindanao is progressive and full of economic potential."

The Dimaporos are trying to turn the five-day event into a weeklong fiesta, tapping volunteers to accommodate and entertain the visitors through special arrangements with transport groups and businessmen.

Organizers are confident the Palaro will be a success, like the Mindanao Friendship Games which was held without a hitch in Mati, Davao Oriental just a week earlier.



Red Bull downs Shell for 8th straight win

CYRUS Baguio (left) of Red Bull applies sticky defense on Ronald Tubid of Shell. RUDY ESPERAS

GAME TODAY *(Cebu Coliseum)*
5 p.m.—San Miguel Beer vs Alaska

By Dennis U. Eroa

RED BULL Barako outgunned Shell, 91-81, and stretched its winning record to eight last night in the Samsung-PBA Reinforced Conference at the Makati Coliseum.

Crowd-pleaser Willie Miller delighted the fans with his repertoire of moves and the rest of the Thunder played with gusto against the Turbochargers, who were already out of the quarterfinals.

The 5-foot-11 ever-smiling Miller capped his heroics by scoring the Barako's final four points, including an alley-oop shot before collapsing like a boisterous kid into the arms of his jubilant teammates.

With the win, Red Bull improved its record to 9-2 behind Group B leader Coca-Cola, which is sporting an impressive 11-1 card.

Scott Burrel, a former Chicago Bull, sat out most of the time but kept his immaculate record with the Barakos since replacing Ramel Lloyd.

"On a personal note, I'm sorry for Shell and coach Perry (Ronquillo). Shell would have been in the thick of the fight if it was in the other group. But keeping our winning record was also very important," said Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao.

Red Bull moved within a win of its all-time longest winning streak in franchise history of nine which it recorded six months ago in the eliminations of the All Filipino Cup.

"My worry is how to keep the intensity level of the team high. I want to send a strong message that this game is important to me," explained Guiao, who was slapped an early technical foul.

Shell, which absorbed its seven loss in eight games against Red Bull since last season, played with guns ablaze at the start.

FedEx got 41 points from slam-dunking Terrence Shannon to clobber Sta. Lucia Realty, 109-85, and fortify its quarterfinals bid.

It was the Express' fourth win in 12 outings, while the Realtors, who are already assured of a quarterfinals seat, dropped to 6-5 in Group A.

Except for playmaker Paolo Mendoza, who scored 11 points on top of seven rebounds and seven assists, nobody among the Realtors played with enough intensity.

Scores:

RED BULL 91—Miller 22, Pennisi 15, Burrell 13, Tugade 11, Harp 6, Villanueva 5, Asaytono 5, Baguio 4, Se 4, Torion 4, Robinson 2, Hizon 0, Valenzuela 0.

SHELL 81—Calaguio 19, Dela Cruz 15, Kendrick 9, Hrabak 9, Tubid 8, Bajar 6, Marzan 5, Laure 4, Singson 4, Jackson 2.

Quarters: 27-20, 36-36, 70-57, 91-81.

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Taulava simply too much for Raymundo

MAN-MOUNTAIN Asi Taulava barreled his way to a 22-11 victory over Purefoods' Kerby Raymundo in the 6-foot-4 and above King of the Court one-on-one championship last night.

As expected, the Talk 'N Text slotman proved an immovable force in the shaded lane as the 6-foot-5 Raymundo, four inches shorter than Taulava, failed to come up with a solid defense.

In a sign of desperation, Raymundo fouled Taulava repeatedly, hoping the Phone Pal would miss his free throws.

Raymundo was right. Taulava went 11 of 24 from the stripes. Taulava next meets Shell's Anthony de la Cruz hoping to clinch a final spot.

Legend Tee stakes Frontier for ace

A BRAND-NEW 4x4 Nissan Frontier Pick-up will be given to the first player to score a hole-in-one in the third Legend Tee golf tournament, which fires off Nov. 8 at the Subic Bay Golf and Country Club in the Subic Bay Freeport.

Round-trip tickets to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia also await winners in the individual and team competitions of the keenly-awaited event while year-round memberships to the posh Legenda Hotel's Legendary Golf Club are up for grabs in the special categories such as the longest drive, most accurate drive and others.

Organized by Legend International Resorts Ltd. (LIRL), owners and operators of the five-star Legenda Hotel, Grand Seasons Hotel and Legenda Suites in Subic Bay, the 18-hole tournament will be staged to raise funds for Tabang Mindanaw to help war victims in Mindanao.

Tournament fee is P3,900. For details call the event secretariat at 732-9888.

LIRL has invited no less than former Miss Universe, socio-civic worker and Tabang Mindanaw task force member Margie Moran to grace the ceremonial tee-off of the event sponsored by Cebu Pacific, Borneo Tours, Citisec Online Constellation Auto Shop, Dynamic Sports Inc., Freedom brands, GTS Insurance, Hai Wang Holidays, the Indonesian Embassy, Jin Lin International, Nanzhou International, Premier Freeport, Standard Insurance, Se Gye IRC Corp., Subic Bay Yacht Club, Trading Gateways Inc., SBMA Marketing and Promotions, the SBMA Chair's Office, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite.

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Sixth for Speedy Schumi

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

WAS I glad I saw Michael "Schumi" Schumacher in the flesh at the Sepang Circuit in Kuala Lumpur in 2000. I knew then that the guy would proceed to rewrite history in Formula One.

I got there upon the invitation of some friends from Caltex. I watched the entire splendor and glory of Formula One racing that year, when the multibillion peso Sepang was inaugurated.

Do you know that Sepang was the result of a joke?

Mahathir, the Malaysian Prime Minister, had proposed to build a state-of-the-art Formula One circuit in Kuala Lumpur. They didn't take him seriously, even though the gods of Formula One had said yes to him. But unknown to them, when Mahathir got home from a trip to Monaco, he called for his country's best architects and engineers to chart the speedway. In no time, it was finished.

To the pleasant surprise of the Formula One moguls, they found the Sepang Speedway the world's most modern Formula One circuit ever. During its baptism of fire, the niece of Queen Elizabeth was a guest. She came in incognito as an usherette at the celebrity lounge of Caltex, with Stewart the legendary Formula One champion as the princess' main host. During a dinner for Caltex's guests at the peak of the Petronas Towers, the princess was also there—again incognito as she came in in white slacks and blue jeans, sans jewelry and make up, to avoid being recognized by the guests. But I recognized her. I kept glancing at her and, catching me several times with my eyes glued to her, she smiled at me accompanied by a wave of her hand. That was a thrill to remember. I stopped giving her glances after that. But when I tried to look at her again after several minutes, she wasn't there anymore. Her chair was empty. Whisked away by, I was told, her secret service agents.

Oh, well. I said to myself I must have given her royal highness' bodyguards the creeps. Sorry.

But back to Schumacher.

Schumacher had just won a record sixth world Formula One title in the most dramatic fashion, eclipsing the five Formula One crowns set by Juan Miguel Fangio of Argentina. To score the feat, Schumacher finished a mere eighth place in the Japanese Grand Prix in Suzuka.

"It is very strange for me because most of my championships I have won with a victory (on the last leg of the season)," said Schumacher. "Here I am today winning the championship in eighth position. It is with mixed emotion though, what the team has achieved is fantastic."

The team Schumacher was referring to, of course, included Brazilian Rubens Barrichello, his unselfish teammate who drove fiercely to turn back the challenge of title contender Kimi Raikkonen of Finland.

For Raikkonen to dislodge Schumacher, he needed to win the concluding Japanese leg while relegating Schumacher to a scoreless finish.

But for placing eighth, Schumacher earned one point, good enough to win his record sixth Formula One crown no matter what Raikkonen did. Raikkonen earned 8 points in finishing second behind Barrichello in Japan but remained, at 91 points, second overall behind Schumacher, who secured 93 points overall.

It was Schumacher's fourth consecutive title for Ferrari. He had earlier won for Benetton in 1994 and 1995.

This year, the German struggled at the start, trailing Raikkonen, 24-8, after three races. He was 48.4 seconds behind Raikkonen after 53 laps in Japan but it was enough to also secure Ferrari's fifth constructor's championship.

"How many times people wrote us off," Schumacher said. "And here we are. We're back. We never give up. We always fight. That is one of the big strengths of the Ferrari team."

The trouble with Schumacher is, he is so good he might win again next year.

Miñoza falters in Bridgestone

FRANKIE Miñoza struggled with an even-par 72 yesterday and fell into a share of 12th place halfway through the $1 million Bridgestone Open golf championship at the 7,208-yard Sodegaura Country Club in Chiba, Japan.

Miñoza, who fired a 66 on Thursday, turned hot and cold, gunning down five birdies against three bogeys and a double bogey on the 10th that booted him out of the Top 10.

His 138 total left him six shots behind joint leaders Hiroyuki Fujita and Daisuke Maruyama. Fujita had a 66 while Maruyama shot 67 for similar 132 totals.

In Sanya, Hainan province in China, Gerald Rosales shot a 70 in the first round of the $200,000 Sanya Cup at the Yalong Bay Golf Club.

Rosales was tied for 19th place, five strokes behind former Philippine Open champ Wang Ter Chang.

Jong Arcano

Magada pulls off rare birdie explosion

By Jong Arcano

BIRDIE-birdie-birdie-birdie-birdie-birdie-birdie.

With this scintillating score on the last seven holes, Benjie Magada captured the Eastridge Invitational golf yesterday by six points over favored Cassius Casas in Binangonan, Rizal.

Casas was cruising along with a four-point lead through 11 holes until the 37-year-old Magada came up with what could be the most sizzling stretch of golf in local history.

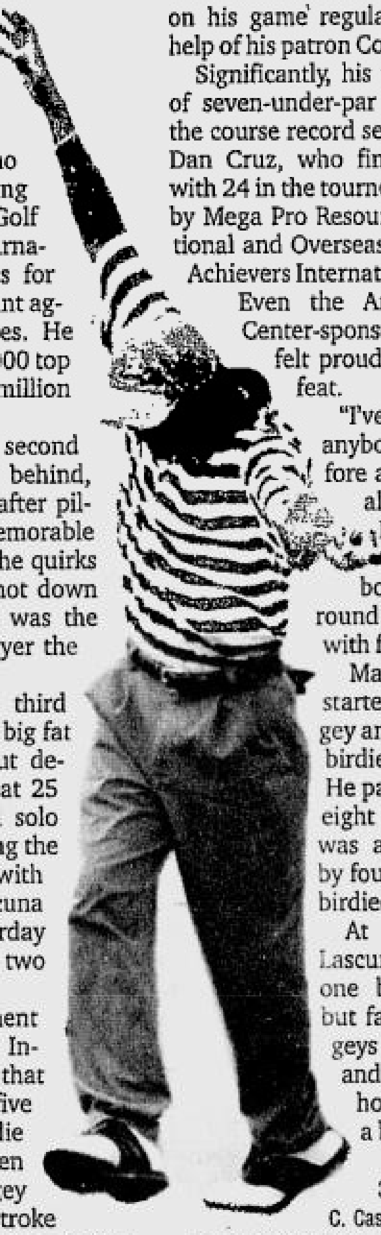
That eruption sent Magada whizzing past Casas like a formula car at high speed.

The ex-caddie who operates a driving range at Valley Golf Club amassed a tournament-best 15 points for the day and a 36-point aggregate for 72 holes. He pocketed the P150,000 top prize from the P1 million total pot.

Casas settled for second place, six points behind, with his 30 points after piling up eight in a memorable final round where the quirks of scoring finally shot down Tony Lascuna who was the most consistent player the past two rounds.

Lascuna, the third round leader, laid a big fat egg in Round 4 but despite getting stuck at 25 points still claimed solo third place. Surviving the first three rounds with just a bogey, Lascuna got four yesterday against only two birdies.

The tournament used the US PGA's International format that gives an eagle five points and a birdie two. No point is given for par, but a bogey costs a player a stroke and he loses three for a double bogey or worse.



"Lucky seven," said Magada of his good fortune "Seven straight birdies on the last seven holes to win a tournament? I really don't know if I can do it again."

Magada has survived the hard times plaguing local pros due to the lack of tournaments by operating the driving range at Valley where he also finds time to work on his game regularly with the help of his patron Col. Ric Dapat.

Significantly, his medal round of seven-under-par 65 matched the course record set last year by Dan Cruz, who finished fourth with 24 in the tourney bankrolled by Mega Pro Resources, International and Overseas Professional Achievers International.

Even the American Eye Center-sponsored Casas felt proud of Magada's feat.

"I've never seen anybody do it before and it was really meant for Benjie," said Casas, whose bogey-free round was spiked with four birdies.

Magada actually started with a bogey and got his first birdie on the third. He parred the next eight holes and was already down by four when Casas birdied the 11th.

At that point, Lascuna was only one behind Casas but faded with bogeys on the 11th and 17th before holing out with a birdie.

The scores:

35 B. Magada, 30 C. Casas, 25, T. Lascuna, 24 D. Cruz, 22 C. Villaroman, 15 D. delos Santos, 11 R. Pactolerin, E. Salvador, 10 R. Alit, 7 J. Rempojo, 6 Hanji Min, 5 R. Ardimer, F. Aunzo (am), 4 V. Lauron.

SAMSUNG TOUR

Deen jumps ahead by 3 shots in Cebu

CEBU—Eric Deen opened his title-retention bid with an even-par 72 on Thursday to build a hefty lead even as Enrico Solon, Nilo Seno, Mario Bancale and Bernie Dablio showed the way in the other divisions of the Samsung Amateur Tour and Putting Challenge at the Cebu Country Club course.

Deen scored three birdies and had the same number of bogeys to post a three-shot lead over Carl Almario (75) with Jovi Neri not too far behind at 77 going into Friday's final round of the tourney serving as the fifth leg of a nationwide series for players of various skill levels.

Solon's 77 gave him a one-shot lead in Class A, Seno and Bancale were tied for the Class B top spot while Dablio stormed ahead by four shots in Class C as they led the way in the men's division that attracted 130 entries.

Although unchallenged in Class A, Gigi Frockjear still came up with the best gross of 86 among the female bets even as Mercy Bejar held a slim one-shot lead over Eva Hino in the Class B division.

Aside from trophies and Samsung appliances, participants are vying for slots to the grand finals this coming March in the tourney co-sponsored by Mario's Restaurant, Wilson, Gatorade, Tokyo Tokyo, Microtel, Custom Clubmakers, Rogin-E and Dunlop Golf with radio stations Killer Bee, Citylite 88.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite as official media partners.

The division winners will represent Cebu in the Samsung Amateur Grand Finals at Mt. Malarayat in Batangas on March 11-12.

Also being held simultaneous with the Tour is the exciting Putting Challenge for men, seniors, juniors and ladies where all the winners each get a microwave oven.

The Class A race was tight with Solon just a stroke ahead of Felix Villanueva and two up on Sito Ugarte, Boy Sansen and Jimmy Sy.

Seno and Bancale led Johnvic Cogal by one while Dablio, with an 82, gained a comfortable lead over Marlou Velasquez and Deo Gabasa who both carded 86s.

The winners in Cebu will join early qualifiers from Forest Hills, Rancho Palos Verdes (Davao), Pueblo de Oro (Cagayan de Oro) and Marapara (Bacolod) and the coming legs at Camp John Hay, Eastridge and Tagaytay Midlands in the national finals.

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MINDA GAMES

Davao City bets overall champs

MATI, Davao Oriental—A struggling champion the last time, Davao City left the field struggling helplessly this time.

With a sustained show of force, Davao City retained its overall title in the Mindanao Friendship Games by finishing more than 30 gold medals ahead of runner-up Iligan City at the close of competitions yesterday.

Medal standing	G	S	B
Davao City	70	65	47
Iligan City	32	22	33
Davao Oriental	21	17	38
Gen. Santos City	14	16	9
Zamboanga City	20	19	14
Gen. Santos City	14	18	15
C. de Oro City	13	12	21
Panabo City	11	7	8
Koronadal City	10	13	10
Lanao del Sur	10	9	7
Malaybalay City	7	5	6
Bukidnon	7	3	10
Tacurong City	7	3	8
Ozamis City	6	6	10
Davao del Norte	4	10	5
North Cotabato	4	6	6
Zamb. del Norte	4	2	11
Misamis Oriental	4	2	8
Tagum City	4	2	3
Davao del Sur	3	6	9
Ilocos Norte	3	0	2
South Cotabato	2	4	7
Compostela Valley	2	3	2
Agusan del Sur	2	1	2
Tangub City	1	4	1
Cotabato City	1	2	1

Davao City swept the two basketball titles and wound up with 70 gold medals aside from 64 silvers and 47 bronzes to highlight its domination of the 27 events disputed in the third edition of this sportsfest organized by the Philippine Sports Commission.

Iligan City, which dominated swimming thanks to 14-year-old wonder Monique Bacolod, competed below expectations but still finished second anew with a gold-silver-bronze output of 31-22-33.

To underscore its fine hosting job, Davao Oriental secured third place overall with a 21-17-27 medal haul which was a far cry from its 3-4-10 effort last year.

Zamboanga City finished fourth overall with 20-19-14 while General Santos City, led by 15-year-old five-gold medal winner Reyna de los Reyes who was named the first Miss Mindanao Games Thursday night, wound up fifth with 14-18-15.

Rounding out the top 10 were Cagayan de Oro sixth with 13-11-21, Panabo City seventh with 11-7-8, Koronadal City eighth with 10-13-10, Lanao del Sur ninth with 10-9-7 and Malaybalay City 10th with 7-5-6.

Davao City, which needed three golds on the final day to nose out Iligan City for top honors in Cagayan de Oro last year, routed North Cotabato, 82-66, to rule men's basketball and Cagayan de Oro, 76-66, in the women's finals.

Bacolod, a promising youngster from Iligan City's deep pool of swimmers, was the most bemedalled with seven golds, two silvers and one bronze. Another swimmer, 24-year-old Norton Alamara, became Davao City's and the games' winningest male athlete with six golds, four silvers and two bronzes.

Iligan City also produced the meet's fastest man through Arnold Villarube who won the 100 meters in 10.89, preventing Clent Tatoy (11.17) from clinching another gold for Davao City.

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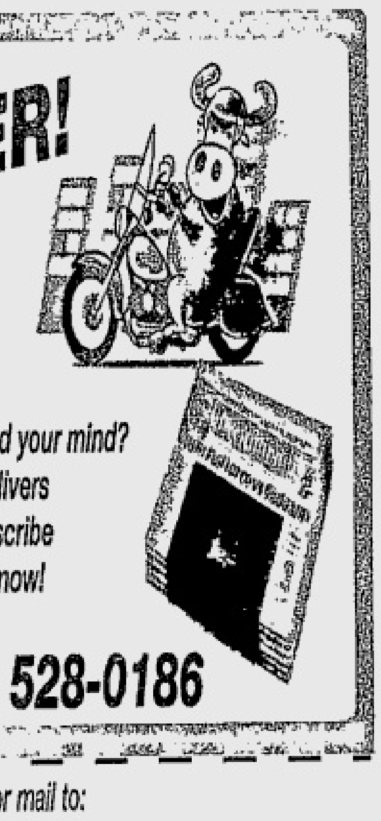

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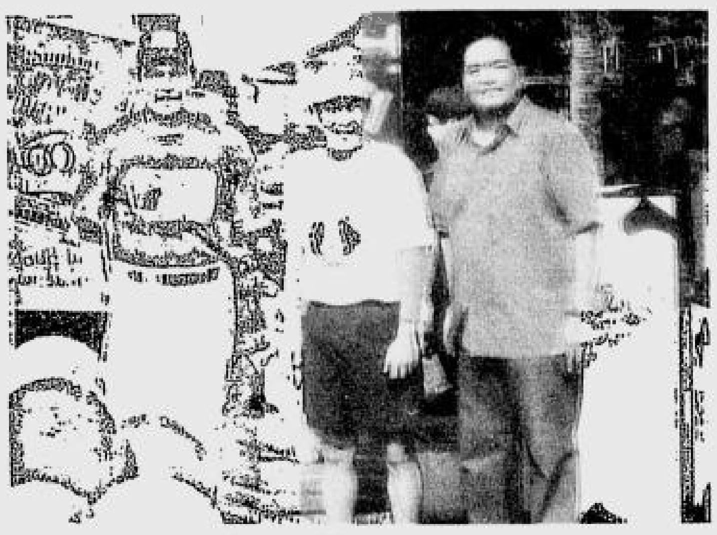
SPORTSWATCH

Barbosa leads World Youth winners

NM Oliver Barbosa, Julius Joseph de Ramos and Jan Jodily Fronda won their respective matches as the Filipinos shared the first round lead in the 2003 World Youth Chess Championships in Halkidiki, Greece. The 18-year-old Barbosa, 27th place in the 2001 edition in Spain, stopped Lieven Artels of Belgium and is slated to meet Spain's Jerez Jose Carlos Ibarra (ELO 2413) in the next round of the boy's 18 and under. De Ramos, the top gunner of NCAA champion Letran, defeated Ilia Kakushadze of Georgia and is scheduled to face Egyptian bet Ahmed Adly (ELO 2448) in the boy's 16 and under. The 9-year-old Fronda Ulanday outwitted Miriam Venturelli of Italy in the girl's 10 and under and will clash with Dominyka Batkovskyte of Lithunia in round 2. Three other Filipinos, Sherily Cua (girl's 16 and under), Karl Victor Ochoa (boy's 12 and under 12) and Wesley So (boy's 10 and under), drew their matches. Arianne Aguja (girl's 18 and under; Nelson "Elo" Mariano II (boy's 14 and under); Cindy Atayde (girl's 14 and under); and Cheyzer Mendoza (girl's 12 and under) dropped their first round matches.

NM Marlon Bernardino



MARCELINO, Martinez and Tingzon

Swift backs NCR TOT baseball, softball

THE SWIFT-sponsored 2004 NCR TOT Baseball and Softball tournament went off to a rousing start at the Alabang Country Club on Oct. 19. This year's tournament is hosted by the Alabang Baseball and Softball Club led by Cathy Ong in cooperation with the proponent, the Philippine Tot Baseball Foundation headed by Boy Tingzon. A total of 43 teams from various Metro Manila schools are participating, including Ateneo, La Salle, Southridge, Woodrose, Miriam and St. Francis. The teams are comprised of boys and girls with ages ranging from 7-17. The tournament is the second collaboration of Swift Philippine TOT and Alabang Baseball Club, after the successful Summer Classic Pony Tournament held last May. On hand for the opening ceremonies were Boy Tingzon of Philippine TOT, Kathy Ong of Alabang Baseball Club, Oscar Marcelino, traveling envoy of the Major League Baseball Association of the USA, and Rally Martinez, representing Joey Concepcion, president of RFM Corp.

Enduraman Triathlon Challenge today

COREVENTS Asia unwraps the first Subaru Forester Enduraman Triathlon Challenge today at the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority grounds. Billed as Asia's toughest, the event features a 3.8-km swim, 180-km bike and 42-km run. Enduraman will showcase 60 of the country's best local and foreign triathletes such as Frank Lacson, Noynoy Jopson, Chris Pollard, Brian Mcreath, Maiqui Dayrit, Fred Uytengsu, Ricky Yupangco and Flip Corpuz and ultra-fit women like Nona Torres and Janet Belarmino. Carlo Ledesma and Rovilson of Game Plan will be hosting the event sponsored by General Motors Philippines, David Salon, Kymcom otors, Snickers, Suunto, San Remo, Clara Ole, Business World Online, Motorista.com, MTV Ink, Pulp, official hotel Subic International and the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

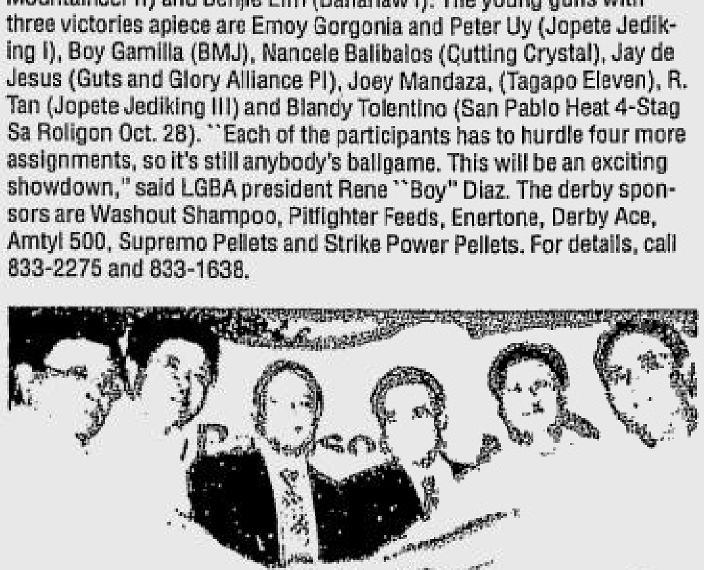
HEAVIEST CATCH
Antonio Ng shows off his heaviest catch, a 4.13 kg pargo--a potential record on the 12-lb line test, in the recent two-day Playdium Bowling and Billiards Corp. Fishing Tournament. The catch helped teammate Edmund Lim to virtually bag the PGFF Light Tackle Angler of the Year crown.

Lagon to stage 5-stag derby Nov. 7

THE ``JBB Blue Blade 5-Stag Derby" of United Cockers Association of the Philippines stalwart Sonny Lagon will be staged at the New Las Piñas Cockpit on Nov. 7. Lagon, two-time Ucap Stagfighter of the Year winner, has invited 30 of his colleagues in the big-time derby circuit, among them 2003 NCA Stagfighter of the Year winners Butch Macasaet and former ambassador Danding Cojuangco; Patrick Antonio, Mayor Jessie Viceo, Gerry Ramos, Biboy Enriquez, Tony Lasala, Benjie Lim, Pol Estrellado, Gov. Ito Ynares, Rep. Rudy Albano, Mayor Nene Aguilar, Jet Fernando, Alex Tang and Ucap president Raymond Velayo. Entry fee is P55,00 while cash prize at stake is P1.5 million. Submission of weights is on Nov. 6, 2- 9 p.m. Interested parties can call 873-1040.

Veteran vs young breeders at Roligon

IT WILL be a battle for supremacy between veteran cockers and young breeders in Roligon Mega Cockpit's ``1st LGBA 7-Stag Derby" championship round, which will start at 3 p.m. today featuring 86 fights. Carrying the banner for the veterans, who posted three points each, are Ucap stalwarts Mauro Prieto of Palawan (Anito), hotelier Biboy Enriquez (Firebird), Bobby del Rosario and Rocky Molintas (Mangzee Mountaineer II) and Benjie Lim (Banahaw I). The young guns with three victories apiece are Emoy Gorgonia and Peter Uy (Jopete Jediking I), Boy Gamilla (BMJ), Nancele Balibalos (Cutting Crystal), Jay de Jesus (Guts and Glory Alliance PI), Joey Mandaza, (Tagapo Eleven), R. Tan (Jopete Jediking III) and Blandy Tolentino (San Pablo Heat 4-Stag Sa Roligon Oct. 28). ``Each of the participants has to hurdle four more assignments, so it's still anybody's ballgame. This will be an exciting showdown," said LGBA president Rene ``Boy" Diaz. The derby sponsors are Washout Shampoo, Pitfighter Feeds, Enertone, Derby Ace, Amtyl 500, Supremo Pellets and Strike Power Pellets. For details, call 833-2275 and 833-1638.



PANASONIC CUP
Panasonic and National basketball League officials put their hands together during the launching of the 2003 Panasonic Cup NBL Regional Championship last Thursday at the Oriental Mandarin Hotel. From left are Cipriano Galo, Louie Kierulf, Rodolfo Perez, Koeiji Uchigasi, Tito Palma and Vrian Urdaneta.

JORGE

TRINIDAD

Angola dribblers

AFRICAN powerhouse Angola will play a two-game exhibition with a top PBL club and the SEA Games-bound Philippine team as sidelights of the coming PBL Platinum Cup on Nov. 8.

"We are finalizing the details of the visit of the Angolans," PBL commissioner Chino Trinidad said yesterday during the weekly SCOOP Forum at Kamayan West in Quezon City.

Angola topped this year's Fiba-sanctioned African cage championship and will see action in the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Trinidad also announced that PBL games will be held at the Pasig and Pasay Sports Complexes and in the provinces.

"The PBL will also hold games at various schools," said Trinidad.

Eight teams will see action in the Platinum Cup. They are multititled Welcoat, Sunkist-UST Tigers, Hapee-Ateneo, Blu Star Power, Montaña, ICT-SI-La Salle, Viva-FEU and the national team.

In a determined bid to continue its winning ways, Welcoat had recruited UAAP MVP James Yap, UP slotman JayR Reyes and former Nutrili-cious star Ervin Sotto, Nelbert Omolon.

St. Benilde, DLSU-D fives unscathed

SISTER schools College of Saint Benilde and host De La Salle University-Dasmariñas have maintained unbeaten slates in the ongoing Unigames in Dasmarinas, Cavite.

Both teams topped their brackets after the second day of basketball eliminations on Thursday at the Palaruang La Salle inside DLSU-Dasmarinas.

La Salle-Dasmarinas continued its winning run by trouncing cross-city rival Cavite State University, 108-78.

Natchet Hasañon led the Dasmariñas-based squad with 20 points, followed by Tito Reyes with 16, Jesus Patambang 15 and Francis Junatas 12.

Maurice Lascano topscored with 18 points for Cavite State U.

Saint Benilde, whose coach Tonichi Yturri was serving a three-game suspension, drubbed University of Iloilo, 105-82, thereby breaking the century mark for the second time in the tournament. Paolo Orbeta, Ron Capati, and Jay Sagad combined for 65 points for the Blazers.

Denself Sina-on and Ryan Celebria chalked up 18 and 12 markers respectively for the Ilongos.

St. Francis of Assisi College System also topped its bracket after beating Ateneo de Zamboanga, 82-59.

Adamson University and Emilio Aguinaldo College-Manila were tied on top of bracket C with identical 2-0 cards.

Adamson topped University of the Assumption, 89-62 for its second win while Aguinaldo stopped University of St. La Salle, 74-69. Ron Jason Buenafe led the Generals with 18 points.

University of Mindanao, starring six-foot-nine Sanigue Eman, tied DLSU-D in the fourth group after defeating Colegio de la Purisma Concepcion, 89-76.

In other games, University of the Philippines-Diliman squeaked past Foundation University, 64-60, Holy Cross of Davao College scored a revenge win over Olivarez College, 99-84, and the San Beda College Red Lions prevailed in the cat fight against St. Louis University Lions, 94-66.

University of the East and DLSU-Manila claimed their second straight wins by prevailing over Baguio Colleges Foundation, 88-79, and Angeles University Foundation, 73-65, respectively.

Meanwhile, Angeles University Foundation provided the first upset in the basketball eliminations by nipping University of the Philippines, 71-70, on Thursday.

The Great Danes achieved the come-from-behind feat with Jerome Alonzo's three-pointer from top of the key four seconds left in the game.

TYSON SUPPORTS KOBE
Former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson ho
their NBA pre-season game against the Los Angeles
game since being ordered to stand trial for sexual as

REYES: RP's top gun

Tanio completes RP sq in showdown with US-E

ALL IS set for On Cue II on Studio 23, the 9-ball showdown between the Philippines' best 4 players and the best 4 of the United States and Europe on Oct. 28-31 at Robinsons Galleria in Mandaluyong.

Aristeo G. Puyat, president of Puyat Sports, and Peter Musngi, vice president of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp., joint promoters of the tournament, announced this recently after Venancio Tanio ruled the elimination tournament to fill the fourth slot in the RP squad.

Tanio joined Efren "Bata" Reyes, Francisco "Django" Bustamante and Canada-based Alex Pagulayan in the RP lineup against Earl Strickland and Johnny Archer of the US and reigning world champion (WPA, Cardiff) Thorsten Hohmann of Germany and Mika Immonen of Finland.

Tanio, a very promising local pro, won the single elimination tournament at AMF-Puyat Bowling Inn's billiards hall that drew 40 players, including world rated Rodolfo "Boy" Luat, Leonardo Andam, Lee Van Corteza, Warren Kia

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PDI tenpin final round under way

THE PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer culminates its first-ever Interdepartment Tenpin Bowling Tournament with a three-game stepladder championship round today at the Superbowl of the Makati Cinema Square.

After 11 elimination games, Administration-Crystal emerged on top with 24,991 pinfalls to lead Group A. Claiming 2nd spot is Finance-Diamond with 24,407, Editorial-Ruby 3rd at 24,402, and Finance-Gold the last group A berth with 24,087.

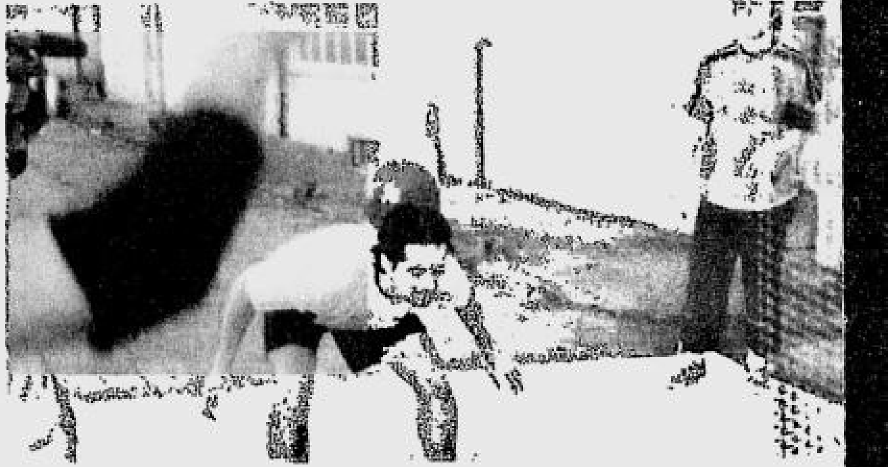
In Group B competition, no. 4 placer Editorial-Emerald (23,615 pinfalls) faces no. 3 Advertising (23,754) in the first game. The winner faces no. 2 Editorial-Platinum (23,799) for the right to compete for the group B trophy with no. 1 Editorial-Sapphire (23,867).

In group C, 2nd placer Information Technology (23,250) waits for the winner between Administration-Silver (20,027) and Classified Ads (21,343) in game 1, while Circulation (23,334) waits for the game 2 winner.

Trophies and cash prizes await male and female top ten players, the highest team single game record (Administration-Crystal-860), the highest team triple (Editorial-Ruby-2483), men's highest single (Raul Marcelo of Editorial-Sapphire-218), men's highest triple (Jun Engracia of Editorial-Ruby-552), women's highest single (Beth Andres of Advertising-212) and highest double (Beth Andres-326).

The top ten in the men's category are Cio Francisco of Editorial Ruby (158.56 average), Chito San Mateo of Administration-Silver (156.96), Jimmy Ramos of Finance-Gold (154.13), Genie Lagman of Editorial-Emerald (149.73), Edward Llantada of Editorial Platinum (148.26), Jun Engracia (148.11), Raul Marcelo (147.46), Gilbert Rago of IT (146.17), Carlo Mercado of Administration-Crystal (145.29), and Ricky Rabanal of Finance-Diamond (144.18).

The top ten female bowlers are Babes Good, Beth Andres , Lorna Tan, Ruby dela Cruz, Adelle Geraldo, Gloria Lardizabal, Gina Layague, Sonia Whitaker, Mabel Cabral, and Tin-Tin Ang.



Dazzle-ball in Nike F

BASKETBALL as you've never seen before.

Nike Freestyle Face Off offers this with its continuing series of Mall, School and Village Attacks to attract participants for the grand freestyle event slated at the Rockwell Tent on November 7.

Nike Freestyle Face Off will feature basketball and soccer tricks and skills performed in sync with funky beats and sounds as demonstrated by the group of Nike Freestylers in their visit last Sunday at Nike Park in Glorietta and Magallanes Village and yesterday at PWU-JASMS, Xavier School and San Lorenzo Village.

Nike freestyler Niño "Dynamite" Ventura, a former San Beda Red Cub, played crowd favorite with his razzle-dazzle move using the basketball.

Composed of Ventura, Freddy Gonzalez, John Lazo, Peter Amores, Kykz Mendiola and David Castro, the Nike Freestylers will be strutting their stuff at Festival Supermall, Alabang Town Center and Ayala-Alabang Village this weekend for the final leg of their tour.

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due for 2 games

The troika will fortify a tough Paintmasters lineup starring Paul Artadi, Jean Pingris, Jercules Tangcay, Marlon Kalaw and Ronald Cuan.

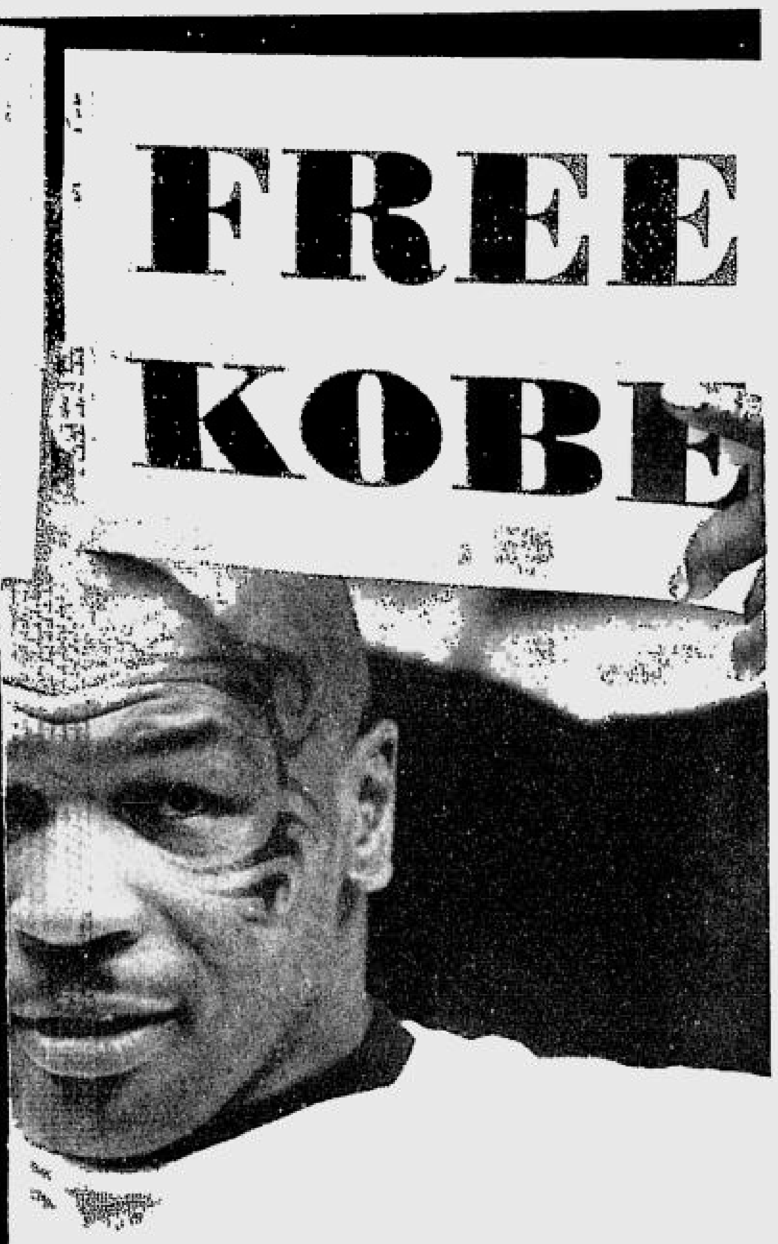
"The Platinum Cup promises to be very exciting," said Welcoat mentor Leo Austria, owner of three Chairman's Cup titles.

Also at the Forum, lawyer Cecille Cinco, legal counsel of the BAPI, said that her client will seek the help of the PSC in taking over the present BAP office at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

"BAPI is doing everything to settle this problem. The court has spoken and we expect the BAP to follow the rule of law. Our last resort is to seek the help of the sheriff's office to enforce the court decision," Cinco said.

But BAP legal counsel Boni Alentajan belittled the BAPi claim. "I don't know what Attorney Cinco is saying," said Alentajan.

"It's very clear that a national sports association like the BAP is free from government intervention," Alentajan added. "The PSC must recognize the autonomy of an NSA. Remember also that the IOC and the Fiba have already granted recognition to the BAP." Dennis U. Eroa



ds up signs in support of Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant during Clippers in Anaheim, California Thursday. Bryant was playing in his first ault and undergoing knee surgery. REUTERS

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mco and Marion Manalo.

ue II matches will be tele- BS-CBN starting on Tues-

al attraction" will be the of lady referee Michaela atchroom Sport, England, ecially brought in for the promoters.

and Bustamante are ive the foreigners a stiff e top purse of the tour- visioned to be an annual

SOCCER player Freddie Gonzalez executes one of his tricks with the soccer ball in an impromptu performance by Nike freestyles. This and all other fancy soccer and basketball moves will be seen during the Nike event at the Rockwell on Nov. 7.

ace Off

d on Nov. 7 is a night of jamming exhibition, hted by a skills competi- here winners will receive 0 worth of Nike products all-expense-paid trip to ore to represent the Philip- n the Southeast Asian re- Final Face Off.

ested groups and individ- ay contact ThemeWorks Company at 535-7467 or 86. The Nike Freestyle f is presented by Nike and sored by the National Grill and MTV Asia.

Tuñacao seeks IBF top ranking

By Salven L. Lagumbay
Contributor

REIGNING IBO strawweight champ Noel Tuñacao will fight Indonesia's Muhammad Rachman in a 12-round duel on Dec. 16 in Jakarta for the right to become the International Boxing Federation's top contender.

The 31-year-old Tuñacao, nicknamed "The Eel" and ranked sixth by the IBF, had earlier been tapped by IBF president Marian Muhammad to battle Rachman with the winner taking the vacant top slot to challenge champion Daniel Reyes. The Indon is ranked 4th by the IBF.

Tuñacao became the logical choice after No. 5 Chana Porpaoin of Thailand became unavailable due to an earlier commitment.

The southpaw Tuñacao (38-6-2, 18 KO's), stakes his reputation against Rachman (42-7-2, 16 KO's), a 30-year-old southpaw nicknamed "Rock Breaker" by the Jakarta sports media.

Rachman is on a 19-bout unbeaten streak since 1998, with eight of those wins scored over Filipinos.

In his last fight, he decisioned Filipino Jun Arlos on June 24 in Jakarta.

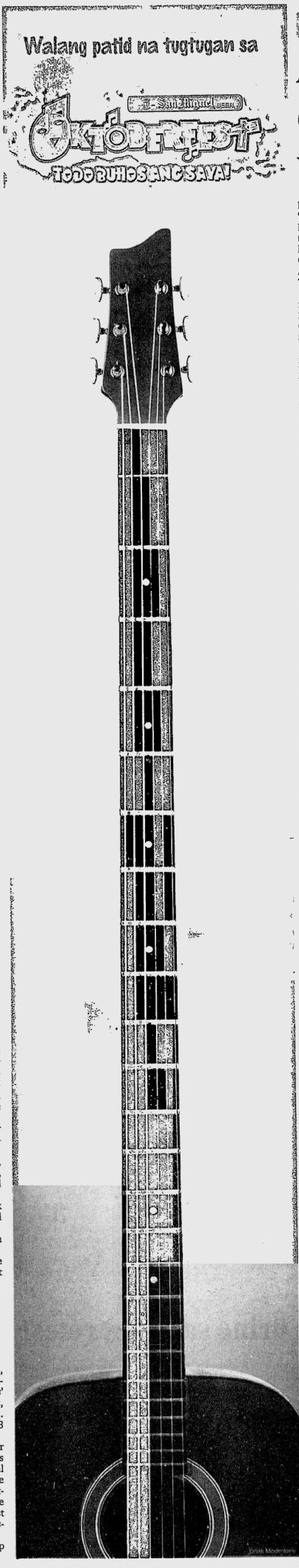
Tuñacao has been inactive since taking the IBO 105-pound from Abrinsett Matta last March 8.

Breeders' Cup 'live' on Solar

FOR the first time ever on local television, sports fans will get to watch the most prestigious horse race in the world, the Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships, "live" from Santa Anita, California at 1 a.m. tomorrow on Solar Sports, with a replay at 8 p.m.

The Breeders' Cup is a multi-million dollar extravaganza that brings together the world's best horses to compete in eight sensational races. It culminates the racing season in the United States and crowns the fleetest sprinters, the most promising two-year-olds and the best turf horses. The day's final and richest race is the US$4 million Breeders' Cup Classic.

Now on its 20th year, the Breeders' Cup promises non-stop action.



Antonio pulls off 4th straight win in Bangkok

FILIPINO Grandmaster Rogelio "Joey" Antonio defeated Indian International Master Rahul Shetty in 31 moves to seize the solo lead in the Bangkok International Open chess tournament at the Amari Orchid Resort in Pattaya, Thailand.

Antonio, the Philippines' No.1 ranked player with an Elo rating of 2521, thus avenged his compatriot GM Bong Villamayor's shock loss to Shetty in the third round.

It was the fourth consecutive win for Antonio, who earlier beat VG Negi of India, Myanmar prodigy Wynn Zaw Thun and Fide Master Siti Zulaikha of Malaysia in that order in the first three rounds.

Top seed GM Alexei Barsov of Uzbekistan settled for a draw with IM Roy Chowdhury of India to be in a tie with Filipino IM Nelson Mariano and defending champion GM Ruslan Pogorelov at 3.5 points, half a point behind Antonio.

Mariano, the 1993 Asian junior champion, made short work of Thamtauthorn Taweechai of Thailand in 27 moves of a Sicilian Chameleon on Thursday.

ANTONIO: Solo leader

Villamayor inched back into contention by beating Malaysian FM Siti Zulaikha in 40 moves of a King's Indian Defense. He shared fifth place at 3 points with three others.

In women's play, Fide master Joy Lomibao drew her fourth straight game, this time with Germany's Otto Hutter (2143) in 40 moves of a Larsen's Opening, to be in a tie at 2 points with International Women's Master Christine Rose Mariano and Chardine Camacho, the reigning Asean under-8 champ.

They stood a full point behind the leaders. *NM Marlon Bernardino*

EPSON CUP

Four tough teams plunge into action

FOUR equally determined badminton squads vie for the coveted First Epson Cup starting today at the Pioneer Badminton in Mandaluyong City.

Team Epson, Pioneer Badminton, FHM and Whistlestop will mix it up in three divisions—men, ladies and mixed—in the two-day meet starting at 8 a.m.

A total of 320 shuttlecock artists have been grouped evenly among the four competing teams in the event sponsored by FHM, Whistlestop, Victor, Pacific Internet and the Philippine Badminton Network.

Other backers include radio stations Magic 89.9 WTM, Wave 89.1, 99.5 RT, 103.5 K-lite and the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Epson marketing head Randy Kanapi, who said his company is committed to the development of RP sports, will deliver an inspirational talk in the opening ceremony.

Kanapi will banner the Epson squad while Dea Alonzo (Pioneer Badminton), Alma Santos (FHM) and Cielo Petines (Whistlestop) will also serve as team captains of their respective teams.

Participants went through stringent qualifying in the past three weeks that involved as many as 450 aspirants.

"The Epson Cup is designed to be a fun tournament but action is expected to be on a high level," said Pioneer Badminton's Edmin Tarriela, among the prime movers of the event.

A street party at Whistlestop Libis with live performances from Brix Ferraris will coincide with the awarding ceremony shortly after tomorrow's championship match.

Mute Madness, a finalist during the recently concluded Magic 89.9 accoustic break, will provide the appetizer in the mini concert.

FHM celebrities have also confirmed their attendance in the awarding ceremonies to be hosted by DJ Crystal of Magic 89.9 WTM.

Non-tournament participants who wish to join the street party can buy tickets worth P300 each at Pioneer Badminton or at the gate. Interested parties may call 7460828 or 6385343.

Young badminton talents face big test

SOME 380 of the country's promising badminton players will be tested when the First Toby's Sports Age-Group Badminton Championships kicks off today at the La Salle Greenhills gym in San Juan, Metro Manila.

The weeklong junior event has attracted a big field of young players aged 10 to 18 years from some of the finest badminton-playing schools in the country.

The tournament will hold its finals at the SM Megamall Activity area on Nov. 2-3.

Competitions will be in singles, doubles and mixed doubles for boys and girls in five age groups-- 18-under, 16-under, 14-under, 12-under and 10-under.

``It will be very exciting to watch the kids play," said Toby Claudio, operations manager of the organizing Toby's Sports. ``We wanted to showcase the talents of these dedicated kids who have trained very hard to excel in the sport."

Claudio said the tournament will be an annual event that will help in the search for future members of the national badminton team.

Coinciding with the championships is the Toby's Badminton Fair at the SM Megamall from Nov. 2-8 that will showcase the latest badminton gear from the finest brands.

Toby's will also be offering free badminton clinics every afternoon from 1-5 p.m. on Nov. 4-6.

The 1st Toby's Age-Group Badminton Championships, held in cooperation with La Salle Greenhills, is sponsored by adidas, Carlton, Wilson, RSL, Prince, Gosen, KFC, SM Shoemart, 103.5 K-lite, Traraflex and the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Best-of-7 corporate billiard final tonight

TOP-rate action is expected when Beer Na Beer and Skyflakes shoot it out tonight for the P100,000 top purse in the Corporate Billiards League best-of-seven championship series at the Robinsons Galleria.

The match, sponsored by Tanduay The No. 1 Rhum with the support of Rommel's Billiards, will be telecast over the National Broadcasting Network at 8-9 tonight.

Beer na Beer is skippered by Marlon Manalo who will be backed up by Al Ortega and Emil de la Paz.

The Skyflakes team is composed of SEA Games veteran Venancio Tanyo, Bicolano revelation Ben Baay and Troy Danao.

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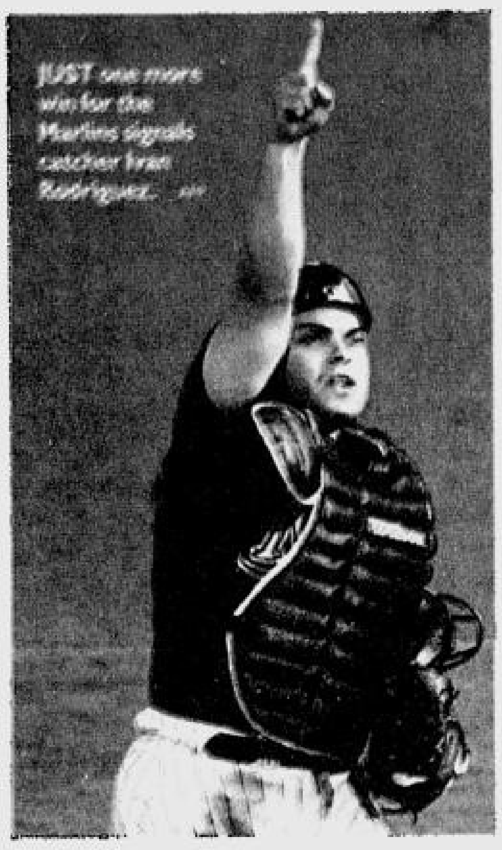


JUST one more win for the Marlins signals catcher Ivan Rodriguez. AFP

WORLD SERIES

Marlins close in on title

MIAMI—Brad Penny pitched seven strong innings and drove in two runs to push the Florida Marlins to within one victory of their second World Series title by downing the New York Yankees, 6-4, in Game Five Thursday.

Florida leads the best-of-seven series, 3-2, with the teams clashing at Yankee Stadium for Game Six Saturday. A seventh game, if necessary, will be played in New York Sunday.

Penny allowed two runs, one earned, on eight hits while striking out four batters and walking two in picking up his second win of the Series. He also beat the Yankees, 3-2, in Game One at Yankee Stadium last Saturday.

Dontrelle Willis pitched a scoreless eighth. Braden Lopper came on in the ninth, giving up a pinch-hit solo homer to Jason Giambi and an RBI double by Enrique Wilson before Ugueth Urbina finally closed the game out.

The Yankees suffered a big blow early in the game when starter David Wells had to leave after one perfect inning with acute lower back spasms.

Jose Contreras took over in the second and was handed the loss, allowing four runs on five hits with four strikeouts and two walks over three innings of relief.

New York opened the scoring on a first-inning sacrifice fly by Bernie Williams but, with Wells out of the game, Florida took three runs off Contreras in the second frame.

Penny produced a two-run single in the second while Game Four hero Alex Gonzalez added a run-scoring double, all with two out.

Juan Pierre's run-scoring double in the fourth and a two-run single by Mike Lowell in the fifth accounted for the other Florida runs.

Derek Jeter had an RBI single in the seventh for the other New York run. *Reuters*

Troubled Yanks

MIAMI—Game Five of the World Series was only an inning old when the New York Yankees found trouble.

With slumping Alfonso Soriano already on the bench along with slugger Jason Giambi, a late scratch because of a sore knee, David Wells left with acute lower back spasms after pitching one inning.

Just like that, the Yankees were without three of their top players. Eight innings later, New York was trailing the Series, 3-2, after the Florida Marlins took advantage of the situation to score a 6-4 win. *Reuters*

Penny rising Florida star

MIAMI—Brad Penny seemed an unlikely candidate for World Series stardom after a disastrous outing in the National League Championship Series when the Chicago Cubs delivered an early knockout in a 12-3 Game Two rout of the Florida Marlins.

But Penny has notched two of Florida's three wins in the World Series and, at 25 years old, stands to become an unlikely hero of the 2003 championship, a series that features Yankees aces Andy Pettitte and David Wells, future Hall of Famer Roger Clemens and the Marlins' own coming name, Josh Beckett.

Penny matched his Game One win with another strong performance in Game Five on Thursday, leading the Marlins to a 6-4 victory over the Yankees and a 3-2 Series lead.

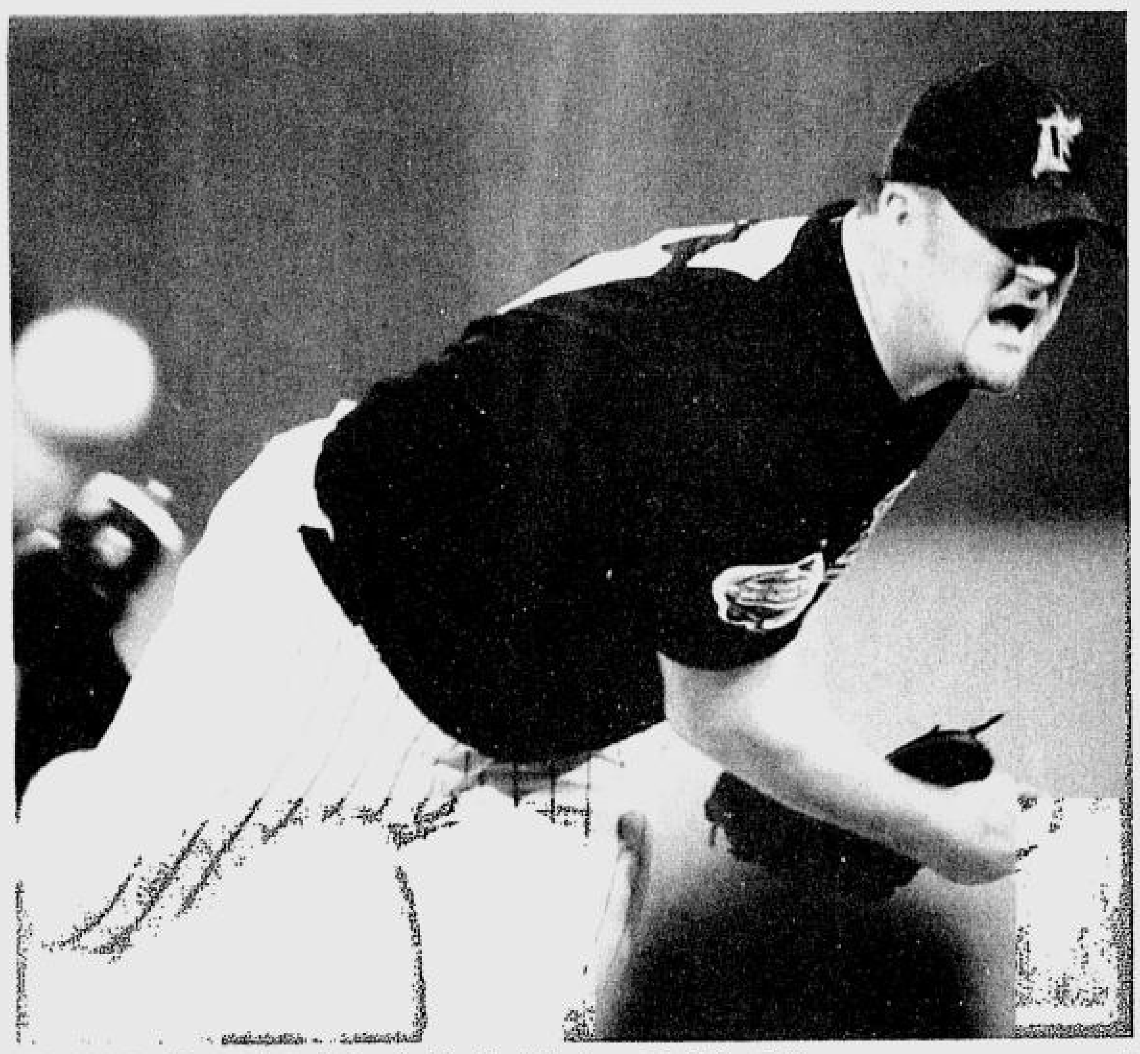
The hard-throwing right-hander, one of the arsenal of young guns that has taken the upstart Marlins to the brink of their second World Series win, went seven innings, scattering eight hits, giving up two walks and striking out four.

"It's nice. It's a dream to pitch in the World Series. To beat a team like that—I've got the most respect in the world for that team," Penny said when asked during a post-game interview about the prospect of becoming the Series hero. "You can't explain it."

A 6-foot, 4-inch Oklahoma native who has 40 wins in four seasons with the Marlins, Penny is one of the stable of young arms—along with Beckett, Dontrelle Willis and the injured A.J. Burnett—that make the Marlins the envy of baseball.

With his team one win from the World Series title, Penny said he is taking nothing for granted.

"It's not over yet. We're real excited. We got to go out and take care of business." *Reuters*



PITCHER Brad Penny overwhelms the New York Yankees with his fast ball. AP

Radcliffe sees clean Olympics

LONDON—British marathon world record-holder Paula Radcliffe believes the THG doping scandal which has rocked athletics could make the Athens Olympics next year the cleanest Games ever.

"The scandal over THG may be the best thing that could have happened to athletics," she says in her column in the Daily Telegraph Friday.

"The cheats are being uncovered and they now have nowhere to hide. Those who thought they were untouchable and could get away with it are running scared," says the 28-year-old.

But she calls on world athletics governing body, the International Association of Athletic Federations, to put more money into drug-busting.

"For once, someone has come up with a test and the dopers are now not ahead of the game and we must ensure that more money is invested in antidoping so that we stay ahead of them," pleads Radcliffe whose 2-hour, 15-minute, 25-second marathon record in London in April is rated as best women's world record on the IAAF books.

Fairer competition

"Only five percent of the IAAF budget is spent on testing—compare that with the amount the cheats are spending." However, she believes the FBI investigations into the THG (tetrahydrogestrinone) scandal in the United States could lead to a fairer competition for the clean athletes next year in Athens.

"Next year's Olympics may be missing some big names, but Athens could well be the cleanest Games for years, so ultimately there is a lot of reason for hope," said the woman who has led the fight against drugs in sport.

She refused to race at the 2001 World Championships in Edmonton, Canada, when the IAAF caved in and allowed Russia's Olga Yegorova to run, and win, the 5,000m gold medal on a technicality after failing a test for the banned blood-boosting drug EPO.

Radcliffe calls for life bans for anyone found guilty of using THG—in line with the US Track and Field Association which has been forced into action by the US Olympic Committee angry that the $13 million they have ploughed into the sport in the last three years was being misused. *AFP*

Cuba trips Taiwan, enters World Cup Final

HAVANA—Kendry Morales batted a home run for the second night in a row as Cuba beat Taiwan, 6-3, and qualified for the World Baseball Cup final.

Cuba faces Panama on Saturday in the contest over the gold and silver medals of this world competition. Cuba will be defending the championship it won during the last world cup four years ago in Taiwan.

Cheered by a crowd of about 20,000 fans at Havana's Latinomericano Stadium on Thursday night, the Cubans remained unbeaten in eight games.

Morales hit his spectacular home run in the third inning to the right field. A homer by Morales on Wednesday in the ninth of the quarterfinal against Brazil that gave Cuba the 4-3 win helped get his team to the semifinal.

In the fourth, Eduardo Paret brought in a run with a double to right field and Yulieski Gourriel added another two runs with a homer of his own in the seventh.

Lin Hung-Yuan slammed a homer in the eighth inning against relief pitcher Yadiel Marti and Chang Chih-Yao hit another two runs against Pedro Luis Lazo.

The game was won by Norge Luis Vera, who allowed three hits in six innings and dominated the Taiwan's batters with a straight, fast, controlled pitch. *AP*

Croatian boots out Federer

BASEL, Switzerland—Roger Federer's hopes of winning his hometown tournament ended Thursday when Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia upset the Wimbledon champion, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (5), 6-4, in the Swiss Indoors second round.

Meanwhile, top-seeded Andy Roddick beat Belgian qualifier Gilles Elseneer, 6-3, 7-6 (5), to reach the quarterfinals.

Second-seeded Federer struggled to return Ljubicic's serves, which regularly topped 210 kph (130 mph), punctuated by a series of unforced errors. To thunderous applause, Federer saved a match point to salvage the second set, but then he visibly flagged in the final set in a match lasting more than 2 hours, 20 minutes.

"Not very good," was Federer's terse reply when asked about his performance. He blamed an injury, but refused to disclose its nature.

"I didn't feel well from the outset. But before the game I hadn't realized it would be so bad."

He said he would now focus on recovering for next week's Paris Masters.

Third-seeded Guillermo Coria and fourth-seeded Argentine compatriot David Nalbandian also advanced, but fifth-seeded Jiri Novak fell to Spain's Feliciano Lopez, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4.

Roddick, who can regain the No. 1 spot in the ATP Champions Race by reaching the final, breezed through the first set against Elseneer. *AP*

KOREA PEACE FESTIVAL
A North Korean woman somersaults in South Korea's Cheju Island during a joint sports and cultural festival amid tension over North Korea's nuclear weapons ambitions. REUTERS

Top woman jockey ready for Breeders

ARCADIA, California—Top woman jockey Julie Krone sounded a Breeders' Cup warning on Thursday, outbattling Frankie Dettori at Santa Anita.

Although it was a fairly modest event on a low-key racing day, Krone rode a superb race, hugging the rails and keeping her mount, Forty Milito, going right to the line to thwart a late Dettori drive on runner-up Hemet Thought.

Age has not wearied her and the 40-year-old now looks ahead to Saturday when she has three good mounts, including Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes winner Funny Cide.

Krone retired in her late 30s only to make a comeback in November last year. She has ridden over 3,600 winners and there seem to be plenty more in the locker.

By chance, Krone and Dettori were at a Breeders' Cup lunch for the media earlier in the week when Krone told of her early battles.

She recalled: "When I said that I wanted to be a jockey when I was 14 or 15, my grandmother wrote me a two-page letter about why I shouldn't be a jockey and all the terrible things involved.

"My mom was supportive (but) my father said he would disown me." She added: "Everyone was very negative about it but I wouldn't hear a word of it. To this day I still have the same letter that my grandma wrote." *Reuters*

THG SCANDAL

China mulls urine samples retest

BEIJING—China, the 2008 Olympic host, is mulling whether to retest all stored urine samples for the newly discovered designer steroid THG, a Chinese antidoping official said Friday.

"We have not made any decision (on the retest)," Shi Kangcheng a senior official from the medical commission of the Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) was quoted as saying by the Xinhua news agency.

"The discovery of tetrahydrogestrinone, or THG, addressed again that the fight against drug cheats in sports could be a long-term and complicated task." The doping control laboratory at the University of California in Los Angeles has developed a test for THG after an anonymous coach turned in a used syringe containing the substance.

The World Anti-Doping Agency (Wada) has sent the testing method to all International Olympic Committee (IOC)/WADA accredited laboratories, including in China, which has been tainted by drug scandals in the past.

"Beijing doping control center has always kept in step with the development of testing methods," said Shi.

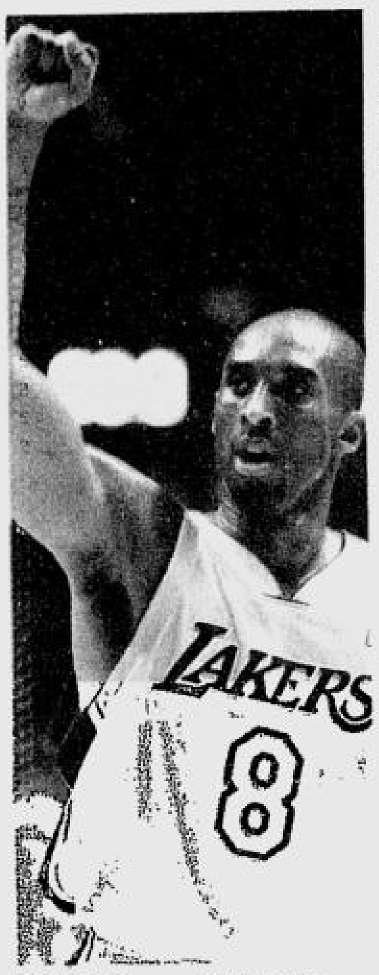
"But the retesting of stored samples may lead to legal controversy. If the stored urine samples are just retested for study purpose, that could be fine." China gained a reputation as one of the worst drug cheating nations in world sport during the 1990s following several high-profile positive drug tests, notably by swimmers, and further cases would badly tarnish its reputation ahead of the Beijing Olympics.

In a separate report, Xinhua said no positive drug tests had so far been recorded at the ongoing 5th Chinese City Games. *AFP*

RUGBY WORLD CUP
New Zealand All Blacks Daniel Carter (right) gets caught in a tackle from Tongas Ipolito Fenukitau (left) and Usaia Latu during their pool D match at Lang Park in Brisbane Friday. REUTERS

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Kobe returns after sex raps, but Lakers lose



BRYANT pumps his fist at the end of the first half of their NBA preseason game versus the Los Angeles Clippers. REUTERS

ANAHEIM, California— Kobe Bryant may wish that the jury for his upcoming sexual assault trial includes members of the sellout crowd at Thursday's National Basketball Association exhibition game at the Arrowhead Pond.

Bryant scored 15 points in his first action since his legal troubles in the Los Angeles Lakers' 107-101 loss to the Los Angeles Clippers.

Coming off off-season knee surgery, Bryant saw action with free agent additions Gary Payton and Karl Malone for the first time in a game. He was greeted by a warm response from the crowd of 18,298 fans, including many of all ages clad in his Lakers No. 8 jersey.

"I don't think I'll be affected by all the great players I have around me," Bryant said. "We have some of the greatest players that have ever played the game. Never thought I'd see a lineup like this on the floor, except at the All-Star Game."

After an offensive foul the first time he touched the ball, Bryant scored his first points on a fadeaway jumper over the Clippers' Quentin Richardson 80 seconds into the game. He scored 13 points in the first half.

"Kobe made some nice moves in the lane," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "He shot the ball well in the first half and it looked like he tired a little."

On Monday, Eagle County Judge Frederick Gannett ruled that Bryant must stand trial on a felony rape charge.

Free on 25,000 dollars bond, Bryant denies he raped the woman but has admitted to having consensual sex with her. Married - wife Vanessa attended Thursday's game - and with an infant child, Bryant faces four years to life in prison if found guilty. *AFP*

VANESSA REUTERS

Reebok signs Yao to lift Asia market

BOSTON—Reebok International Ltd. has signed Houston Rockets center Yao Ming to a multiyear marketing deal after his endorsement contract with Nike expired.

Yao will help market Reebok in his native China through print and television ads, promotional appearances and with his signature collection of athletic footwear and apparel, the Canton-based sneaker maker announced Thursday.

Reebok, which posted its strongest earnings quarter in six years Thursday, hopes Yao's popularity in China will help it earn a 20 percent market share, an estimated $300 million, by 2008. In June, Reebok and the NBA announced a pan-Asian partnership to develop and market NBA apparel and accessories.

"We now have several extraordinarily powerful assets in global performance basketball," chairman and CEO Paul Fireman said. "And the addition of Yao gives us incredible traction in China, a critical market with great potential for our brand."

The company did not release details of the deal. A spokesman for Yao, Bill Sanders of BDA Sports, did not immediately return a call for comment.

John Horan, publisher of Sporting Goods Intelligence, of Glen Mills, Pennsylvania, said Reebok made a good move in signing Yao. Reebok, originally a European brand, has traditionally had a weak presence in China, the world's largest market, he said.

"The Chinese market is expected to grow very, very quickly, partly because of the economy and partly because of the Beijing Olympics in 2008, and Yao Ming is just huge over there," Horan said. "I think they see this as really their way of getting into that market in a big way."

Yao, the No. 1 pick in the 2002 draft, averaged 13.5 points and 8.2 rebounds for the Rockets in his rookie season. He will debut Reebok's NBA Fusion shoe during Houston's first regular season game next Thursday. His official footwear and apparel line will be introduced in fall 2004.

"I look forward to the fun and the challenge of promoting basketball worldwide with a legendary company like Reebok," he said in a company release.

Currently, Reebok's leading endorser among NBA players is Allen Iverson of the Philadelphia 76ers.

Reebok shares closed up 51 cents at $37.75 in trading Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange. *AP*

NBA 2003 games (US time)

October 28 — Miami at Philadelphia Phoenix at San Antonio Dallas at Los Angeles Lakers; October 29— Miami at Boston Orlando at New York Atlanta at New Orleans New Jersey at Toronto Indiana at Detroit Milwaukee at Minnesota Washington at Chicago San Antonio at Denver Portland at Utah Dallas at Golden State Cleveland at Sacramento; October 30—Los Angeles Clippers vs Seattle at Japan New Orleans at Orlando Denver at Houston Cleveland at Phoenix; October 31—Washington at Toronto Detroit at Miami Milwaukee at Indiana Minnesota at New Jersey Boston at Memphis Atlanta at Chicago Seattle vs L.A. Clippers at Japan Philadelphia at Sacramento; November 1—New Jersey at Washington Detroit at Orlando Indiana at Atlanta Boston at New Orleans Toronto at Minnesota Chicago at Milwaukee Utah at Dallas Memphis at Houston New York at San Antonio Sacramento at Denver L.A. Lakers at Phoenix Cleveland at Portland Philadelphia at Golden State; November 2—Golden State at L.A. Lakers; November 3 —New York at Orlando New Orleans at Atlanta San Antonio at Memphis Houston at Chicago Miami at Dallas Minnesota at Utah Philadelphia at Portland; November 4—Denver at Indiana Houston at New Jersey L.A. Lakers at Milwaukee Miami at San Antonio; November 5—New Orleans at Philadelphia Dallas at Washington Chicago at Orlando Milwaukee at New York Boston at Detroit. *AFP*

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Tiger fires 66, nears PGA mark

WOODS: I played solid. AP

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida— Tiger Woods moved within 18 holes of matching a long-time PGA Tour record Thursday with a six-under-par 66 that left him trailing Brenden Pappas by three strokes after one round of the Funai Classic at Disney World.

Barring an unexpected disaster Friday, Woods will be credited with making his 113th straight cut on tour, tying the mark set by Byron Nelson in the 1940's.

Woods was a little disappointed with his score, because he was at six-under after just 11 holes on the Palm course, the easier of the two layouts used for the 4 million-dollar event, but could only par the final seven holes in pleasant morning conditions.

"The greens were soft and smooth, and you could be aggressive," said the two-time Disney champion. "I played solid all day and kept myself out of trouble. I only missed two greens, but you had to make some putts. I did that early but did not make any putts coming home.

Meanwhile, Pappas had 10 birdies on the Magnolia course to lead the field at nine-under 63. He was even after five holes, before reeling off nine birdies in the next 11 holes to open a one-stroke lead over Vijay Singh, John Huston and Pat Perez.

Pappas, who is 49th on the money list, can shoot great when he's on. He bogeyed the last for 62 at the tour event in Mississippi three weeks ago to finish second, and he also once shot 28 for nine holes in his native South Africa. *AFP*

VIJAY Singh lines up his putt at the Funai Classic at Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., Oct. 23. Singh finished tied for second after first round. REUTERS

Garcia 1 down

MADRID—Sergio Garcia's improved putting helped him to a seven-under-par 64 at the Madrid Open on Thursday, just a stroke behind first-round leader Paul Casey of Britain.

Garcia has made swing changes this year and lies only 93rd on the US money-list with earnings of only $666,000 dollars.

He lies 190th for 'putts per round' and he has missed out on the U.S. Tour's end-of-season lucrative Tour Championship, in which only the top 30 US Tour players take part, in two weeks' time. *Reuters*

Pak makes historic cut in men's event

PAK AP

SEOUL—South Korea's Se Ri Pak made history for women's golf Friday when she became the first female to make the cut in a men's event in 58 years, at the SBS Super Tournament on the Korean men's tour.

"I can't believe it, did I really make it?" asked Pak, 26, who succeeded where four other women — world number one Annika Sorenstam, fellow pros Suzy Whaley and Laura Davies and teenage sensation Michelle Wie — all failed this year.

"I am very happy with the result," said Pak who scored a two-over-par 74 Friday for a two-round total of 146 at the 6,448-metre (7,052-yard) Lake Side Country Club in Yongin, south of Seoul.

Tournament officials said Pak was the first women to make the halfway cut in a men's event in 58 years, repeating Babe Zaharias' feat at the Los Angles Open in 1945.

Earlier this month Davies tried and failed at a men's Asian PGA in South Korea. Sorenstam and Whaley both chanced their luck on the US PGA Tour while Wie played on the Canadian Tour and Nationwide Tour.

"I'm not suggesting I'll go out and win now," said Pak, a three-times LPGA tournament winner this year.

"But because I've made the cut, now I am aiming at a top 10 finish and I will play more aggressively from the third round on." Pak said she had never felt as much pressure in her career as she had over the past two days in blustery and chilly conditions. *AFP*

Gabito spearheads RP bid in Afro-Asian Games

By Roy Luarca

LONG JUMP ace Lerma Bulauitan-Gabito will lead a seven-member athletics team leaving today to compete in the 1st Afro-Asian Games which formally opened yesterday at the GMC Balayogi Athletics Stadium in Hyderabad, India.

Accompanied by coaches Isidro del Prado and Joseph Sy, the other Filipino bets are long jumper Marestella Torres, middle-distance runner John Lozada and the 4x400m relay team of Ernie Candelario, Rodrigo Tanuan, Jimar Aing and Ronnie Marfil.

Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok heads the team and will also serve as the chef de mission of the lean delegation in the nine-day meet involving 97 countries.

Already in Hyderabad are the national boxers, swimmers and tennis players.

"Victories would be far-fetched here owing to the topnotch competition. What we're really after is exposure for our athletes," said Go, also the vice president of the Asian Athletics Association. "After all, the purpose of this Games is to foster unity and friendship between Asia and Africa."

Also accompanying their athletes are Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines president Manny Lopez and Philippine Lawn Tennis Association head Col. Buddy Andrada. The swimmers are headed by Maritess Filio.

Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso Dayrit will also attend the Games as guest of the organizing committee.

Lopez, who's been tapped to be the Games' technical director for boxing, brought along Harry Tañamor, Violito Payla, Ferdie Gamo and Roel Laguna, coach Pat Gaspi and referee Mar de Guia.

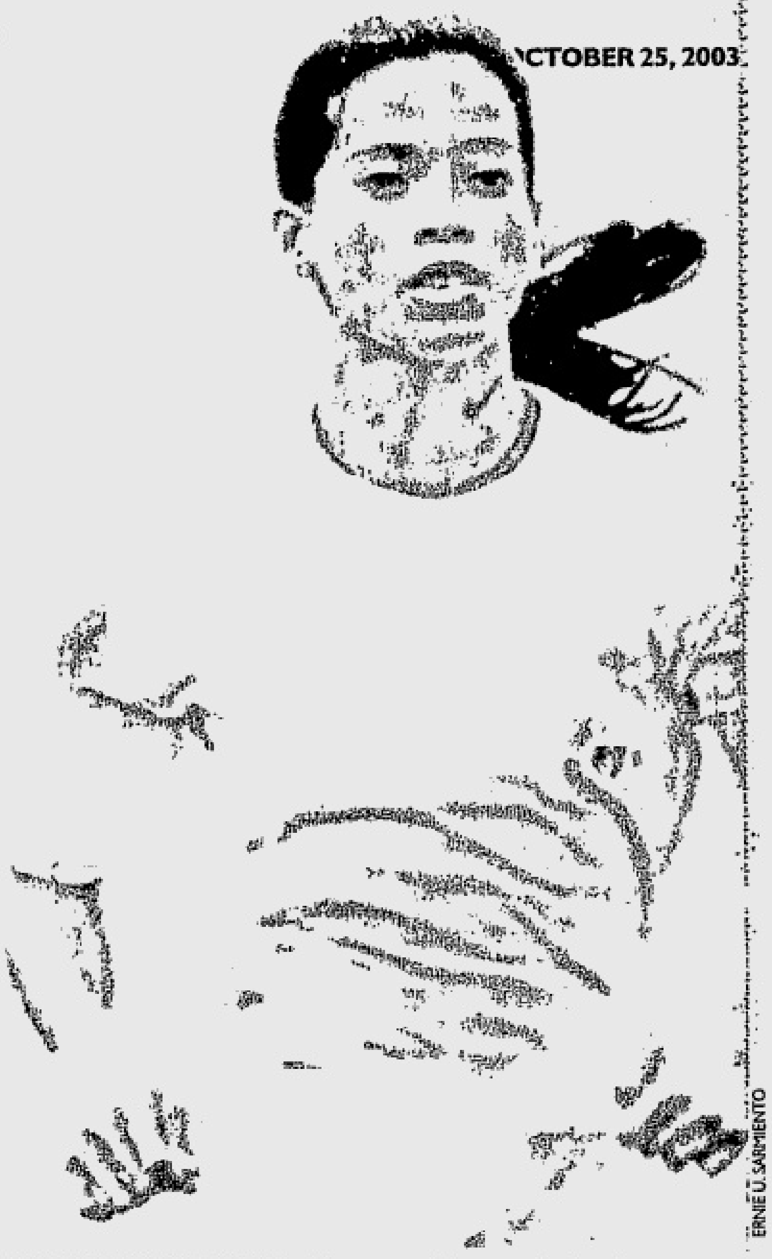
Andrada, also the president of the Asian Tennis Federation, entered players Johnny Arcilla, Joseph Victorino, Adelo Abadia, Czarina Mae Arevalo and Anna Patricia Santos. With them is coach Johnny Jose.

The swimmers are Ferdinand Frigillana, Ryan Arabejo, Bonnie Byron Sy, Michael Mars Danila, Gerard Gariel Bordado, Alister Kennedy, Ernest Lorenzo Dee, Josephine Pilapil, Sherlynne Nicole Santiago, Kristia Angela Lacson, Marinela Arabejo, Aprodite Magbanlac, Liane Marice Marquez and Mariel Infantado.

Accompanying them are coach Aristotle Lim, assistant coach Aleeza Haley Serag and technical official Richard Luna.

The Filipinos' stint in the Games, which drew more than 2,000 athletes from 44 Asian and 53 African nations, is part of the Philippine Sports Commission's preparations for the Vietnam Southeast Games in December.

Other events calendared are football, hockey, shooting and weightlifting. Football games started Oct. 21 and hockey competition Oct. 23.



ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

BULAUITAN-GABITO: Medal prospect in women's long jump

AN APPRECIATIVE President Macapagal-Arroyo receives bowling World Cup champ Christian John Suarez (third from left), third runner-up Jojo Cañare (right) and world championships medalists Liza Clutario, Cecilia Yap and Liza del Rosario in Malacañang yesterday. VAL HANDUMON

West Bound topbills Sta. Lucia Cup cast

WEST Bound, winner of the first two legs of the prestigious Triple Crown Stakes Races, headlines a tough nine-horse field in the main event of the third edition of the Sta. Lucia Racing Festival at Santa Ana Park tomorrow.

Out to challenge West Bound—the only locally bred galloper in the field of nine entries in the 1,600-meter Sta. Lucia Cup—are recent stakes winners Buena Sera, Midnight Lady, Absolute Charmer as well as Sunny Contender, Neat Laurel, Triregal, You Know That and Catwalk Pia.

In all 12 races with total prizes of more than P3 million, including P450,000 in the Sta. Lucia Cup race, are slated in the day-long festival.

Six races, each with a guaranteed prize of P200,000, make up the Sta. Lucia Racing Festival. These are the La Mirada Invitational, Orchard Town Homes Invitational, Club Morocco Invitational, Pinewoods Invitational, Victoria Place Invitational and the Greenwoods Invitational. Races start at 1 p.m.

The owner of the Sta. Lucia Cup champion will win the lion's purse of P300,000 plus a trophy. The second placer will receive P100,000 and the second runner-up P50,000.

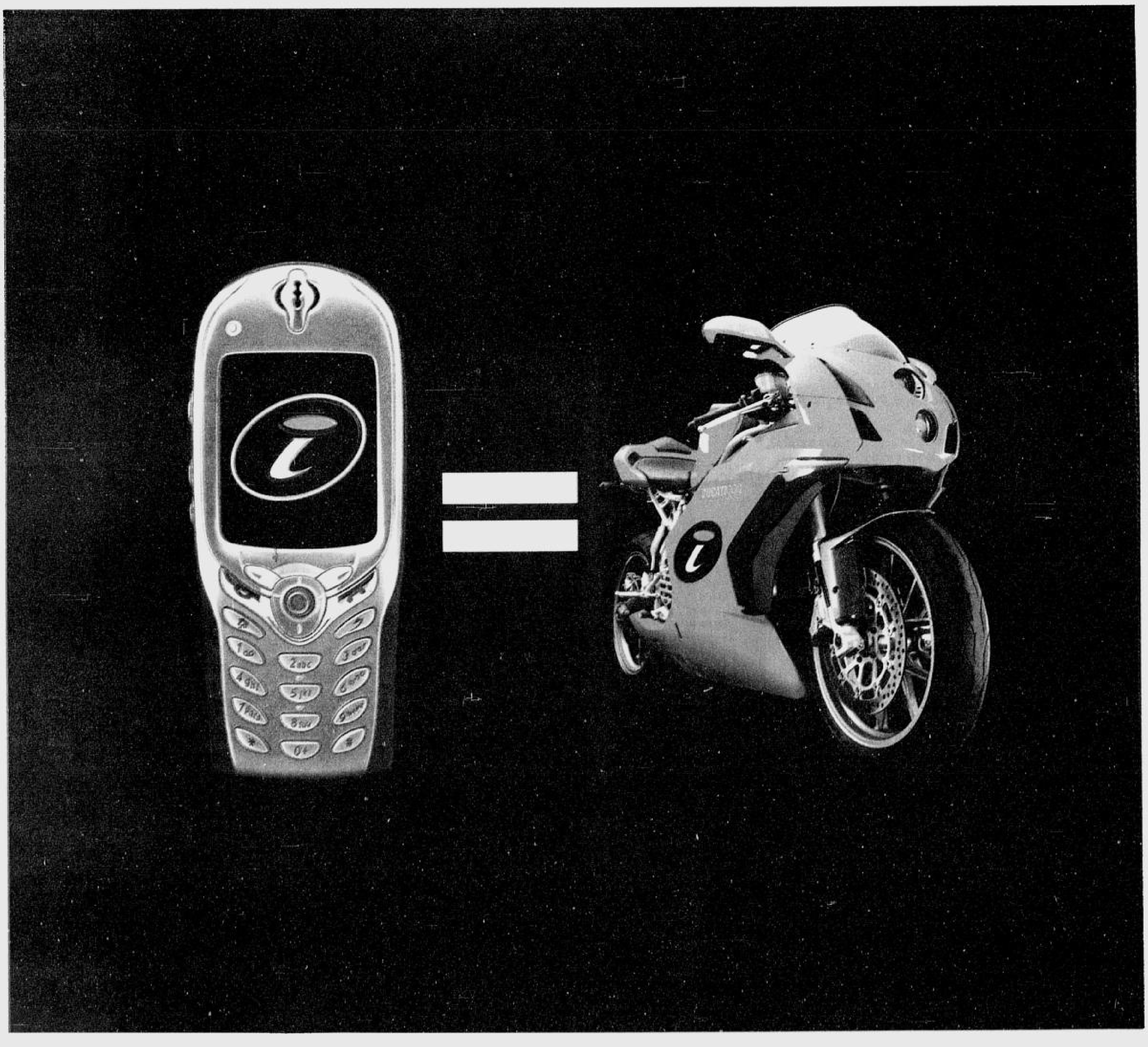
Lending support to the day's main event is the Saddle & Clubs Special Race, a 1,500-meter event that will serve as the first comeback race for multititled Wind Blown.

The 6-year-old champ will be up against an impressive field of imports and locals in the chase for the P250,000 winner's purse.

Also on tap are three P400,000 Philracom Octoberfest Invitational Races and the PCSO Sweepstakes Race for maiden gallopers.

The event will be held simultaneously with the Real Estate fair, which will be led by Royale Homes Marketing Corp. It offers 20-percent discount on all properties developed by Sta. Lucia Realty & Development Inc.

These estates include Saddle & Clubs Leisure Park and The Orchard Golf & Country Club and Residential Estates in Cavite; La Mirada Royale Residential Estates in Bulacan; The Villages at Lakewood City in Nueva Ecija; Club Morocco Beach Resort & Residential Estates in Subic; Pinewoods Golf, Country Club and Residential Estates in Baguio; Greenwoods Executive Village and Victoria Place in Pasig; Rizal Technopark and Glenrose Residential Estates in Taytay, Rizal.



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SMC buys Vietnam food firm for $35.5M

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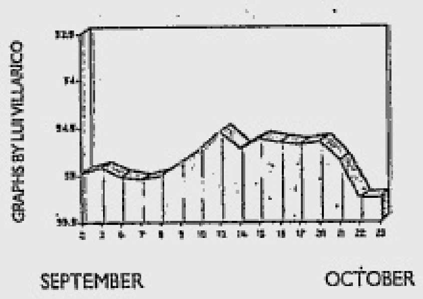


PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P55.33 = $1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 24, 2003

¥109.54 = $1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 24, 2003

GOLD: $383.40-383.90

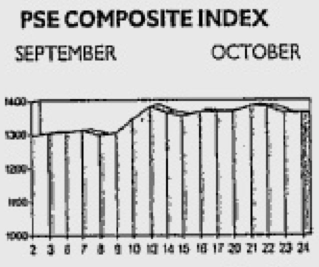
per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 24, 2003

STOCK MARKET

Stocks end lower

STOCKS ended a shade lower yesterday on caution over political uncertainties, but analysts expected buying interest to return soon in anticipation of upbeat corporate earnings for the third quarter.

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B6)

The main index finished 1.04 points or 0.08 percent lower at 1,363.40 points. The market was down 0.28 percent on the week but is up 33.88 percent so far this year.

"Investors continue to exhibit caution following recent news reports of a probable FPJ candidacy in next year's presidential elections," said BPI Securities investment analyst Spencer Yap.

"This renewed cautiousness cut short what had been a steady rise towards resistance at 1,400."

Value turnover dropped to P502.02 million from Thursday's P1.03 billion. In the broader market, losers beat gainers 46 to 16 and there were 35 stocks unchanged.

"History has shown that investors will eventually discount this current uncertainty," Yap said. "As the market tests support...at 1,360 then 1,330, we can expect buying support to again strengthen."

The Philippines' two largest banks, Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company (Metrobank) and Bank of the Philippine Islands , are releasing their third-quarter reports on Oct. 30.

The country's biggest telephone firms, industry leader Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) and second-ranked Globe Telecom Inc are announcing third-quarter results in the first week of November.

Market players are expecting the telecom leaders to sustain profit growth given strong revenues from their mobile phone business.

Reuters

By Doris C. Dumlao

SAN Miguel Corp., Southeast Asia's largest food and beverage conglomerate, said it had signed a deal to acquire a 100-percent stake in a food company in Vietnam, giving it a foothold in the fast-growing Vietnam consumer market.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), SMC said it was buying TTC (Vietnam) Co. Ltd., a hog raiser and feed milling company, from Taiwan Tea Corp. for $35.5 million.

"SMC signed yesterday a share sale and purchase agreement with Taiwan Tea Corp. for the acquisition of the latter's 100 percent shareholding in TTCV Investment (BVI) Co. Ltd. (the parent firm of TTC Vietnam)," the company said in the disclosure.

The deal, which is SMC's first acquisition of a food business in Vietnam, allows it to acquire all assets as well as the leasehold rights of TTC (Vietnam) Co. from Taiwan Tea Corp., a source from SMC said.

SMC said it was also in talks for the acquisition of a soft drink bottler in Vietnam.

These moves will pave the way for SMC to build a wholly-owned food and beverage manufacturing plant in Vietnam, one of the seven countries the conglomerate had targeted for regional expansion.

The deal with TTC, which is expected to be completed by Oct. 30, covers all the assets and facilities of TTC on a 234-hectare leased property located in Binh Duong, the fastest growing province in Vietnam. The facility mainly serves Ho Chi Minh City, which is Vietnam's most progressive city today, SMC said.

"With TTC (Vietnam) as a springboard, SMC aims to fast track its entry into the country's basic and processed meats market while creating a stronghold in its growing animal and aquatic feeds market," SMC said in a statement.

SMC said it "intends to continue running the business with majority of its (TTC) 500-strong Vietnamese workforce, supported by a core management team to oversee a smooth integration."

The selling party, Taiwan Tea, manufactures and distributes tea leaves and drinks and other agricultural products, motor vehicles and construction materials. It also constructs and leases out commercial buildings. Livestock accounts for only 9 percent of its business portfolio, the bulk of which (77 percent) involves trading.

It was earlier reported that SMC was also keen on acquiring a controlling stake in softdrink bottler Coca-Cola Indochine Pte. Ltd., a unit of Singapore's Fraser & Neave Ltd. It had already acquired an industrial estate in Thailand and said that it was also in talks to acquire the China-based breweries of Malaysian conglomerate Lion group.

Aside from Vietnam, SMC hopes to establish a strong presence in China, Australia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand and Malaysia.

After dominating the Philippine food and beverage market, SMC believes that its next step should be to diversify overseas.

SMC earlier said it would invest about $100 million in each of the seven target countries. It has about P28 billion in excess cash from previous asset sales to fund its expansion and acquisition plans.

SMC, owned 15 percent by Kirin Brewery Co. Ltd. of Japan, currently operates breweries and packaging plants in Vietnam, China and Indonesia. It also has a brewery in Australia. *With a report from Reuters*

PPA seeks expansion of Ro-Ro network

By Abigail L. Ho

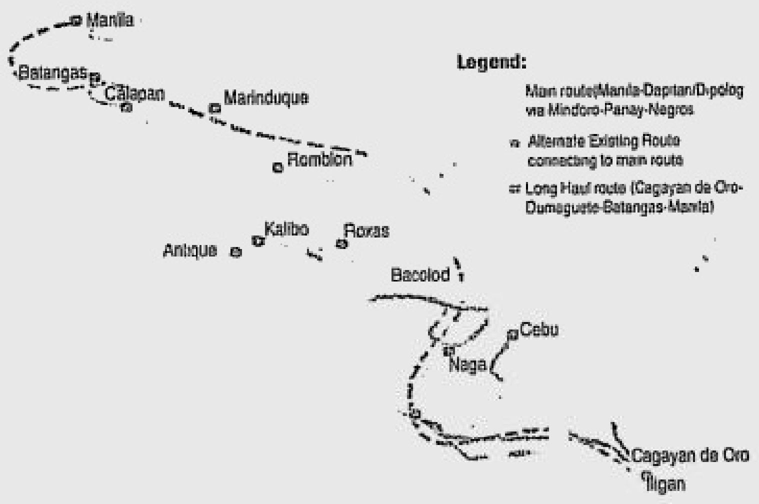
THE PHILIPPINE Ports Authority is seeking the inclusion of 21 ports in the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) Roll-on, Roll-off (Ro-Ro) network, citing increased activities in the ports presently included in the network as the primary reason for the proposal.

The additional ports would result in 16 new links for the nautical highway, PPA general manager Alfonso Cusi said in a statement yesterday.

He said that since the opening of the SRNH in April, farmers and small entrepreneurs had been reaping the benefits brought about by the ro-ro network in the form of lower transport costs and savings arising from a more efficient transport system. With more ports serving as national highway links, he said these benefits could be further magnified.

"It is beyond doubt that the SRNH has resulted in the lowering of inter-island transport costs and other benefits to small businessmen and farmers, as well as to local tourists going around the country. We want to multiply these benefits by opening up the nautical highway to other points," he said.

The PPA's proposed additional ports lie along the western seaboard, eastern seaboard, Mindoro-Marinduque-Romblon-Palawan area, the southwestern seaboard and the northeastern seaboard.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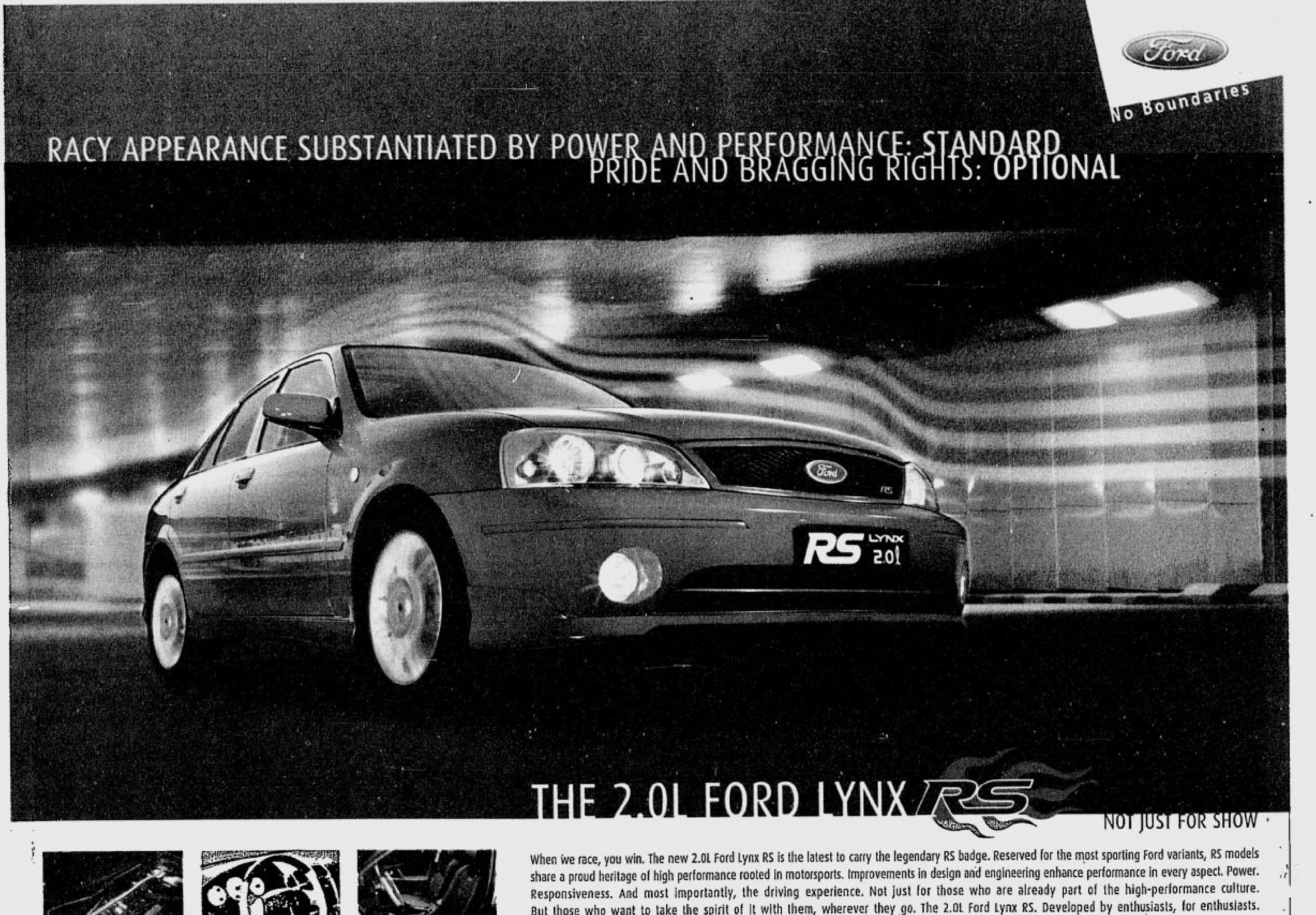
Batangas
Calapan
Marinduque
Romblon
Kalibo
Roxas
Antique
Bacolod
Cebu
Naga
Cagayan de Oro
Iligan
Legend:
Main route(Manila-Dapitan/Dipolog via Mindoro-Panay-Negros
Alternate Existing Route connecting to main route
Long Haul route (Cagayan de Oro-Dumaguete-Batangas-Manila)

In the western seaboard, the ports to be included are Abra de Ilog, Tabaco and Virac while for the eastern seaboard, the ports to be linked are Matnog in Sorsogon, San Isidro and Allen in Northern Samar, Liloan in Southern Leyte, and Lipata in Surigao.

PPA/ B3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'CARITAS: 50 Years of Witnessing Love and Justice' 1953-2003

CARITAS Turns 50

CARITAS, the social services and development ministry of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Manila, celebrates its Golden Jubilee on October 25, 2003 at the Folk Arts Theater with the theme "50 Years of Witnessing Love and Justice".

It will be attended by CARITAS board members, present and former staff, donors, beneficiaries and volunteers from the social services ministry of the parishes in Metro Manila. The gathering aims not only to celebrate the institution's 50 years of dedicated service to the poor but also to strengthen CARITAS' mission to empower the poor.

The highlights of the CARITAS Golden Jubilee Celebration are the Concelebrated Mass to be presided by CARITAS Chairman His Eminence Jaime Cardinal Sin and the Commissioning Rites of CARITAS' 8,000 volunteers, Recognition of donors, and the Thanksgiving Show entitled "Limang Dekada ng Pagmamahal at Paglilingkod" (5 Decades of Love and Service). The program will have live performances from Ms. Jolina Magdangal, Joey Ayala, Noel Cabangon, Gary Granada, Kundiman Magpakailanman, Christian Alvear, Smokey Mountain's Mga Anak ni Inang Daigdig, Tanghalang Hulyo 23, and CARITAS beneficiaries Ebony Pasman and Bukid Kabataan children.

CARITAS also launches its fund drive campaign in partnership with Ayala Foundation USA encouraging Filipino Catholics in the US to support Church programs for the development of poor Filipinos.

CARITAS was established in October 1953 by the late Archbishop Rufino Cardinal Santos to answer the immediate needs of the underprivileged Filipinos. It has evolved from a dole-out organization into one that advocates the empowerment of the poor as a means towards total human development.

Under the leadership of CARITAS Chairman Jaime Cardinal Sin, Executive Director Monsignor Francisco G. Tantoco Jr. and Deputy Director Fr. Anton C.T. Pascual, CARITAS of the Archdiocese of Manila celebrates 50 Years of Witnessing Love and Justice, strengthening its lead role in the Church social services and development ministry.

FROM left: Rev. Fr.. Anton C.T. Pascual Caritas - Deputy Director, Cardinal Jaime Sin - Caritas Chairman and Livia Honey Girl de Leon - PCSO Chairman.

Caritas through the Years

October 1953

Archbishop Rufino Cardinal Santos puts up Caritas Manila, initially known as Catholic Charities. Maria Kalaw Katigbak serves as first Executive Director.

The Archdiocese is comprised of Manila, Rizal, Bulacan and Cavite, the primary areas for Catholic Charities' programs and services.

1954

Catholic Charities initially holds office at the PTA room of San Juan de Letran, transferring four months later to a new building on Isaac Peral St. (now United Nations).

377 families receive weekly food rations.

38 poor but deserving students are given scholarships. The Educational Assistance Program is born.

The Job Placement Center is established, providing opportunities for employment and skills development. 131 are trained.

1955

The Medical Assistance Program was opened for the poor, becoming the most sought-after program of the decade.

Fr. Thomas Mitchell, SJ assumes post of Executive Director.

Material Aid Section is put up, providing crisis assistance and emergency relief.

The Catholic Charities Guidance Center helps clients cope with life's countless tests and challenges.

185 persons find jobs through tie-up with 473 employers.

Parish Welfare Units are launched in 17 parishes, becoming distribution centers of Catholic Charities' programs for the poor.

1956

Fr. Federico Limon, SVD becomes the third Executive Director.

15 parish-affiliated clinics extends the reach of Catholic Charities' medical assistance program.

1959

Fr. Protacio Gungon, now Bishop, holds the post of Executive Director.

1960

62% of the budget is spent on material aid.

1961

Catholic Services for the Deaf is established, enabling the handicapped to pursue gainful employment.

Bulacan and Cavite are separated from the Archdiocese, becoming Diocese of Malolos and Diocese of Imus, respectively.

1963

Catholic Charities headquarters moves to Otis St. (now Paz M. Guanzon).

1964

Material aid beneficiaries reach its peak with 49,584 family members being helped regularly and 1,954 being aided on an emergency basis. This type of aid would decline in succeeding years as the people request for more self-help activities.

1965

24,652 patients receive medical / dental aid, including those served in 21 parish-affiliated clinics.

1966

The Home Industries and Self-help Unit is set up, producing handicraft items to supplement income of family-participants (including the disabled).

Fr. Marcelino Tagle becomes Executive Director.

1967

Parish Volunteers Welfare Organization is formed from the Parish Welfare Units, and become Catholic Charities' extension in providing its services.

1968

Catholic Charities operates a 24-hour volunteer secretariat for 10 days in the aftermath of the Ruby Tower earthquake, aside from contributing 25 cavans of rice and 5,000 sandwiches.

1969

Msgr. Ferdinand Mempin replaces Fr. Tagle as Executive Director.

1970

The Catholic Service for the Deaf expands to include the blind and paraplegic.

Catholic Charities trains domestic help in cooperation with the Catholic Women's League and the Manpower Division of the Department of Labor.

Catholic Charities reaches 27,489 patients during an extensive anti-diptheria, anti-cholera and deworming operations in cooperation with the UST Domiciliary Services.

Educational assistance taps the support of 81 schools and offers 290 scholarships.

1971

Catholic Charities' deep involvement with children begins.

The Filipinas Child Care Program starts, reaching 3,040 children through affiliated institutions during the decade.

The Manila Basketball League is organized, involving the youth in a healthy summer recreation for ten years.

1972

Charity and development meet in Catholic Charities' response to poverty.

Two successive typhoons submerge the Greater Manila Area and 13 Luzon Provinces. Catholic Charities distributes PhP5,000 worth of food, medicine and clothing to each of the 120 parishes within the Archdiocese, and PhP65,000 each to six dioceses of Central Luzon.

The Relief and Rehabilitation Program is born, with equipment loaned out to typhoon victims, so they may start out again.

Catholic Charities puts up a project for small fisherfolk in Cardona, Rizal to uplift their economic conditions. Capital loan assistance becomes the main thrust of the organizing program.

Catholic Services for the Deaf is expanded to include the blind and paraplegic. Income-generating opportunities remain the focus fo the program; the silkworm project is adopted.

1973

The Cardona Project is replicated in Navotas. These communities would be turned over to their respective parishes during the next decade, circa 1977.

A nursery is established within the Educational Assistance Program.

EAP itself will grant an annual average of 341 scholarships during the decade.

1974

Jaime Cardinal Sin becomes Archbishop of Manila, replacing Rufino Cardinal Santos, Catholic Charities founder, who died in the previous year. Msgr. Mempin continues to serve as Executive Director.

Sin renames Catholic Charities into Caritas Manila (CM) and places archdiocesan agencies under CM for more efficient coordination and service.

The Socio-Economic Advancement Program is created, covering skills training and job placement of the earlier decades. At least 17,013 graduate during the decade.

1975

24 parishes develop vocational courses for the poor. 2,930 graduates clinch jobs.

CM assists 281,518 individuals in the aftermath of Typhoon Didang that lasted for 11 days.

1976

CM launches the Rehabilitation Community for the Handicapped in Antipolo, although this would not see completion due to problems in the site.

CM launches a rehabilitative and preventive nutrition program with CRS of the USA. 8,100 children will benefit in the 14 years that the program will run.

2,733 students graduate from 31 parish skills training centers.

The Morning Glory Program is established.

CM is incorporated and attains a legal identity.

1978

The Caritas Alumni Scholars Association is formed to assist the program. At least 1,780 scholarships are awarded during the decade.

Caritas Manila moves to its current location in Jesus St., Pandacan, Manila.

1979

CM launches the first Catholic school for special children, the Madonna Special School for the Handicapped.

CM supervises the Philippine Refugee Processing Center in Bataan, offering comprehensive social services for 2,000 Indo-Chinese refugees in its first year alone.

1982

Bishop Protacio Gungon returns as Executive Director.

1983

The Morning Glory Program launches the Marian Residence, its first residential component.

1988

CM undergoes re-organizing, resulting in the creation of district development teams and internal technical support teams.

Three drop-in centers for street children are established.

1989

The first Three-Year Development Plan for the Archdiocese of Manila is framed. Community organizing becomes the centerpiece program.

Residential center for male streetchildren is inaugurated under the Morning Glory Program

"Reach the Poor" tithing campaign is launched.

1990

28 urban poor sites are targeted for organizing, with core groups formed.

2,000 families per week in 98 parishes avail of rice at PhP6.00 per kilo (against the then prevailing rate of PhP9.00 per kilo), in tie-up with National Food authority.

Four trade fairs, featuring products of 92 small entrepreneurs, gross PhP500,000.

CM distributes relief to four dioceses hardest hit by the July 16 earthquake. 12 rehabilitation projects are funded.

The Caritas Social Action Awards is launched to recognize parishes in the field of social development. It lasts until 1994.

1991

The AIDS education program is launched, serving as the Church's contribution to address the growing impact of the disease.

Organized communities implement their socio-economic anchor projects.

CM earmarks PhP6.6M for rehabilitation of Central Luzon provinces hit by Mt. Pinatubo's eruption. PhP2M is allocated for purchasing 1.6 ha of land for victims of the Ormoc flash flood.

CM inaugurates the Youth Renewal Center in General Trias, Cavite, a rehabilitation facility for drug dependents.

1992

The first Three-Year Development Plan ends. CM phases out its community organizing intervention in 10 target sites.

The Urban Poor Desk is created to provide support in times of land and housing disputes.

The Prison Apostolate Program advocates against the restoration of death penalty and presses for jail reforms.

Five major tradefairs are held to showcase products of parish-based groups to wider markets, earning PhP1.54M.

Skills training program in parishes ends; at least 3,950 graduate. The Job Placement Program continues, processing 15,000 applicants this decade.

1993

PAP is renamed as the Prison Justice and Development Program, reflecting the widening scope of the program. It spearheads the celebration of Prison Awareness Week.

CM joins the program of assistance in Somalia in response to Pope John Paul II's appeal for help.

1993

At the start of its three-year cycle, CM identifies decentralization as strategy to make social services more accessible.

1994

Four district centers are set up, although only that in South Quezon City (now Cubao District) will sustain its services.

CM establishes a home for the elderly, with 2 residents initially.

1995

CM marks the end of the cycle where community organizing was centerpiece program. By then, 44 target sites have been organized, 6 of which remain active at present.

1996

CM-PJDP is recognized as the "Best NGO in Prison Service" during the first National Correctional Excellence Awards.

1997

Parish Empowerment officially becomes CM's centerpiece program, with pilot in the social service delivery program of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Novaliches.

CM helps four member-parishes in the St. Anne Vicariate in Taguig set up a disaster response mechanism in both the vicarial and parish levels.

1997

Pabuhay, a coalition of CM-assisted communities with land and housing concerns, acquires a 1.4-ha land in Cavite through a PhP6.8M bridge financing. The Program would encounter hitches, although 41 housing units will be set up by 2000, with 31 families relocated.

The Morning Glory Program undergoes major changes. The Sagip-Moral component is absorbed into the Educational Assistance Program as community leaders become self-sufficient. Residences for abandoned boys and exploited girls are merged at the Bukid Kabataan Center in Cavite. The Home for the Elderly joins them until 1999.

The Environmental Concerns Program is set up and links with other agencies in promoting environment-friendly practices, especially solid waste management. It would be integrated into the Advocacy Unit that would be formed later.

1998

AIDS Education broadens into advocacy and direct assistance.

The Job Placement Program is shut down, after employers expanded into the countryside, making opportunities inaccessible to clients.

A district-wide campaign for parishes in Manila to set up paralegal desks is started. A paralegal formation module for volunteers is designed.

1999

Program for Street Families is piloted with 74 families. They are later absorbed into the Educational Assistance Program.

2000

CM holds the Social Justice Jubilee Summit that discussed top ten urban poverty issues, with inputs from the government, private and social sector. The Advocacy Unit is formed, to follow up on resolutions made during the Summit.

CM convenes representatives of all offices under the Ministry for Social Services in the Archdiocese as well as parish and district service committees. A common vision is formed.

The Parish and District Empowerment program is born. CM calls itself Caritas of the Archdiocese of Manila , to reflect that there are other Caritas offices at the lower levels in this consolidation program.

2001

The Caritas Social Movement is launched, aiming to cultivate the balance between charism and institution in delivering services. Fr. Anton Pascual presents its salient points during Caritas' 48th anniversary.

Tie-up with PCSO and Radyo Veritas results in "Operation: True Love" at the district level, a regular medical / dental outreach activity that has reached more than 10,000 cases as of June 2003.

Bukid Kabataan school makes Special Education curriculum available. The farm development program is also conceptualized for implementation in 2002.

2002

95% of parish SSDMs are involved in the consolidation program. 973 volunteers are active in organization, operations, education and formation and finance.

Caritas readies itself with scenarios in the event of a reduction in the Archdiocese's territorial scope.

The districts of Paranaque and Novaliches become dioceses.

2003

The Archdiocese of Manila is composed of the districts of Manila, Makati and Pasay. The dioceses of Cubao, Kalookan and Pasig are erected from the former districts of the Archdiocese. Diocesan bishops sit in the Caritas of the Archdiocese of Manila's Board of Directors.

Caritas of the Archdiocese of Manila celebrates 50 years of witnessing love and justice, strengthening its lead role in the Church's social services and development ministry.

CARITAS MANILA Programs

CARITAS programs	Description	Needs
Parish and District Empowerment Program	The Parish and District Empowerment Program aims to establish and institutionalize a functional Archdiocesan - District Parish social services and development ministry structure in order to increase access of the urban poor to much needed programs and services i.e. job placement centers and parish and district clinics Provides social services and development programs to the poor in the community i.e. Parish and District Health Clinics Job Placement Centers and Crisis Centers for victims of fire and flood	Parish volunteers for the social services ministry Medicines for the parish and district clinics Food, bottled water and clothing for crisis victims assisted by the parish and ecclesiastical district centers
Scholarship Program	Provides educational opportunities to poor but deserving students from elementary to college. CARITAS scholars are from poor families with a per capita income of Php1,000.00 and below with net asset not more than Php30,000 The scholars receive financial support for their transportation allowance, miscellaneous expenses and values formation program	Financial Assistance Elementary Php4,500 Highschool Php5,000 College Php6,500 Vocational-Php6,500 Endowment Fund. P50,000 - 1 HS student until he/she graduates P70,000 for 1 College student until he/she graduates Books, School Supplies and Student Uniforms
Bukid Kabataan (Children's Farm)	Residential program in Gen. Trias, Cavite for the recovery and healing of abandoned and abused children ages 7-12 years old. It envisions the total development of the children to their maximum potential through provisions of a healthy learning environment and a curriculum suited to their needs and abilities, and services necessary for rebuilding their lost self. Specifically, it is geared towards developing self-reliant, independent and productive children ready to face the challenges of life.	Financial Assistance P5,000/mo/child Amount includes food, education, books, clothing and values formation programs Non-Cash Donations, Books and school supplies, School uniforms, Toiletries for the children
Prison Justice and Development Program	The program envisions a correctional community that is empowered through an Integrated Pastoral Program of Development based on the principles of *Restorative Justice*. The Program focuses on the totality of the client as a human person in terms of his/her spiritual, moral, social/material, and intellectual needs. His empowerment can only be pursued under an environment of justice and trust. Restorative Justice is considered a paradigm that allows all those affected by crime: the victims, the offenders and the community to come together to resolve collectively on how to repair the harm done and to make things right through support, opportunities for participation and communication - all these efforts towards healing and reconciliation	Financial assistance for the client inmates values and spiritual formation programs, trainings for volunteers and paralegal services Non-Cash Donations Clothing, Food, Toiletries for the inmates
AIDS Prevention Program	The program is basically an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign that aims at raising the level of awareness as regards to HIV-AIDS. It recognizes the vital role of the Catholic Church as an educator in promoting correct information on HIV-AIDS as well as compassion and care for those affected by HIV. In 1990, two program components were added namely Direct Service or Alay Pag-asa and Advocacy	Cash donations to support persons with HIV-AIDS and their families

Program of Activities of the CARITAS Golden Jubilee Celebration

April 13, 2003

Opening Salvo

Joint Pastoral Letter "Love and Justice" was read in Metro Manila parishes to encourage the faithful to donate their time, talent and treasure to CARITAS.

"What good is it for a man to say, I have faith, if his actions do not prove it? Can that faith save him?"

Setting up of CARITAS booths and bazaars in select parishes for CARITAS anniversary souvenir items and products of urban poor groups.

Launching of Dear God 463 Interactive Text Campaign in partnership with Smart Communications, Inc.

July 5, 2003

Conference of Metro Manila parish-based Cooperatives

July 19, 2003

General Assembly of Prison Volunteers

Sta. Catalina College, Manila

September 27, 2003

Social Services and Development Ministry Leaders' Conference on Urban Poverty

Our Lady of Guadalupe Minor Seminary

October 25, 2003

Closing Ceremomies

CARITAS: Limang Dekada ng Pagmamahal at Paglilingkod

Region-wide Commissioning of 8,000 volunteers and Thanksgiving Concert

Launching of the CARITAS-Ayala Foundation, USA Partnership

Folk Arts Theater

Guest Artists: Ms. Jolina Magdangal, Joey Ayala, Gary Granada, Noel Cabangon, Christian Alvear, Children from AMO-PDM, Smokey Mountain's Mga Anak ni Inang Daigdig, Kundiman Magpakailanman, Tanghalang Hulyo 23, and CARITAS beneficiaries Ebony Pasman and Bukid Kabataan children

Year-round Activities

Conduct of mega-job fairs and mega medical missions

Operation True Love Campaign (Medical Missions in poor parishes)

Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office - CARITAS partnership

Board of Trustees for the year 2003

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CARITAS Vision

The poor in the Archdiocese of Manila, journeying with Mary, Mother of the Poor, as a people of God; empowered, transformed and renewed by the Holy Spirit; discerning the signs of the times in the light of the Gospel and the Social Teachings of the Church; and committing talent, time and treasure as partners in the work of establishing a more just, loving, humane and peaceful society and in the full realization of the Kingdom of God.

CARITAS Mission

To realize our vision, the Social Services and Development Ministry, commit to:
- Empower the poor
- Uphold human dignity and solidarity
- Promote social justice and Christian charity; and
- Protect and care for the environment as stewards of God's creation

This page is sponsored by PCSO and SMART Communications ADVT

The show off must go on

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

ONCE in a while, whether or not their boss Gloriaetta really believes she can win in 2004, we get some sense from—for lack of a better term—"Cabinet members."

Quoted in the business pages recently for instance was the Cabinet member who is traditionally the economic team captain by virtue of his position.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said that we had to raise our tariff rates from today's 6 percent, on the average, to about 25 percent.

And he said we were not even violating our commitment under international trade agreements like the WTO and the AFTA. Where has this guy been hiding all our lives?

***

CAMACHO (a.k.a. the Whiz) was only trying to explain a deep mystery of the universe, which is known among many astro-physicists as "our enormous budget deficit."

Under this cute administration, the deficit seemed to have obtained a life of its own, and it has kept on getting bigger. In fact, it has already broken the all-time record.

And that was even before Gloriaetta could come out with all sorts of campaign materials, such as the calendars given to Filipinos in Thailand during the Apec meeting.

Of course another Cabinet member said that they were, ahh, "not necessarily" campaign materials. They were also not necessarily just a substitute to toilet paper.

* * *

ANYWAY, local and foreign business cannot ignore the deficit, because economists are now threatening to use terms which we cannot understand such as "unsustainable."

Down here in our *barangay*, "unsustainable" simply means that, one of these days, the deficit is going to blow in our face, and so we better do something before it's too late.

One solution, which is espoused by the Whiz, is the increase in tariff rates. If we do it now, we can cut the deficit by half immediately.

And so if the problem lies on the tariff rates, as the Whiz implied, then a good part of the blame should go to the administration of Kuya Eddie for its propensity to show off.

***

AT that time, in the early 1990s, from out of nowhere, for no reason at all, our government volunteered to cut our tariff rates across the board just like that.

Thus today, as our showing off must go on, our tariff rates averaged at 6 percent. As against our neighboring countries which are all doing much better than us, our rates would seem masochistic enough.

Thailand for instance has an average tariff rate of 16 percent. What made us think that we could slash ours to one-third of that country's rates, and we still expect to beat Thai goods in our market, remains a mystery to every sane businessman.

And so today we import T-shirts, chairs, and brooms from Thailand, which were all made cheaper than the local goods by our self-flagellating tariff cuts. Hoorah!

***

AND so business is now saying that the tariff cut was so fast and so furious, it killed a lot of the local industries, rendering hundreds of thousands of Filipinos jobless.

Some foreign companies simply closed their factories here. With the tariff cuts, they could just import the same goods from their factories elsewhere in Asean, and they still would come out ahead.

It was bad enough that we have one of the highest population growth in the world, creating new entrants to the labor force of close to a million every year.

Now we also have to contend with those people who were eased out of their longtime jobs. What was great about it was, the government did them in.

* * *

BY the way, in a casual conversation, Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas explained to me why our unemployment rate is much higher than those in other countries.

She said that, under the ILO definition, an unemployed person must be one who wants to work, who is able to work, and who is looking for work, but who cannot find any.

We define an unemployed person as anybody who is not working, whether or not he or she is too lazy to get out of bed even just to look for a job in the classified ads.

To the good labor secretary, it is another example of our masochistic tendency. She said it creates a bad impression of the country abroad. You know—so many bums!

***

ANYWAY, stupid or not, such a definition of the unemployed person here has been in use for the past 17 years or so, meaning, it can still show a trend, whether up or down.

Ever since we made that brilliant move to cut tariff ahead of others in our region, not to mention a bigger cut, the trend has been a massive loss of jobs in manufacturing.

And as the Whiz pointed out, the tariff cut led to other problems. In 1994, for instance, when the average tariff was 20 percent, revenues of the customs bureau accounted for 5.2 percent of the GDP.

Today, thanks to the 6 percent average tariff rate, customs revenues is down to only 2.4 percent of GDP. This partly explains the huge budget deficit.

* * *

IN business, the thinking today is that the fast and furious tariff cut only looked good on paper. In theory, it was to supposed to make our local industries...well, "competitive."

With the tariff cut, imported goods could come in cheaper than local goods, thereby creating competition from the outside against the locals.

Such a threat, according to the academicians who came up with the bright idea, was supposed to force our industries to shape up. Thus they could become "world-class."

And so the term became another buzzword during the time of Kuya Eddie. Our factories could become, ahh, "worldclass" simply by punishing them.

***

BUT how could the locals compete with the imports? We had the highest power rate in Asia, for instance. Not only that, we had also one of the highest interest rates.

Before I forget, as if those two factors were not enough, we also had one of the highest incidence of graft and corruption not only in Asia but in the whole world.

On top of it all was our poor infrastructure. In a ranking of competitiveness of countries, we were ranked among the lowest in infrastructure.

And so we asked our weak small local buys to fight the giants abroad in our own playground by writing down rules favoring those bullies.

***

MINUS the customs revenues which disappeared because of the tariff cuts, this cute administration was forced to impose a tax on us getting sick.

I am not kidding. The government imposed the 10-percent VAT on professionals like doctors. Down here the VAT simply means that, if you get sick, you pay tax.

Or take the 10-percent VAT on banks, which they passed on to us who borrowed money to buy our own shelter, on our mortgage. Thus, if you dare to want a roof over you head, you pay a 10 percent tax.

In other countries, they give you incentives to own your first house, and they only tax you heavily on the second house.

Here, thanks to the VAT on mortgage, the government is discouraging us from borrowing money to buy our own place. No wonder we have squatters!

PPA seeks expansion . . .

From page B1

The proposed additional ports in the Mindoro-Marinduque-Romblom-Palawan area are San Jose in Mindoro Occidental, Odiongan in Romblon, and Dalahican in Quezon. In the Visayas, those proposed to be included in the SRNH are San Jose in Antique, Tampi and Amlan in Negros Oriental, and Palompon, Ormoc and Maasin in Leyte.

In the southwestern seaboard, the ports in Zamboanga City, Pagadian in Zamboanga del Sur, Isabela in Basilan, Jolo, and Bongao, are also to be included.

In the northeastern seaboard, links to be added included the ports in Curimao, Ilocos Norte, and Basco, Batanes.

"Immediately following the opening of the SRNH in April, there has been a significant swelling of activities in the links covered," Cusi said.

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See flyers for details

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Tuberculosis is a highly contagious and potentially fatal disease.
Here in the Philippines, 68 Filipinos die every day of TB and 22 million adults are infected. It is feared that millions of children will develop childhood TB through their contact with infectious adults.

Though this is the case, many parents are still not aware of the seriousness of the disease. Here are some facts to clear up some common misconceptions.

MYTH: TB rarely affects children compared to adults.

FACT: The spread of TB disease-causing bacteria is usually from an infectious adult or adolescent to an uninfected individual, adult and child alike. The 1997 National TB Prevalence Survey shows that TB in children is as prevalent as the adult cases. It shows that about 7% of children ages 0-4 years old are infected while the 5-9 age group shows close to 17% incidence. Your child can be one of them.

MYTH: My child is BCG vaccinated; therefore, he will not contract TB.

FACT: The risk of TB infection in both vaccinated and unvaccinated children is about the same. At best, BCG can only prevent TB infection into progressing to life-threatening or disseminated forms of TB like TB meningitis or military TB among others.

MYTH: Childhood TB or primary complex is not as alarming as SARS, dengue or pneumonia.

FACT: SARS, dengue, or pneumonia differs only in their acute severity. TB in children can be equally treacherous. The TB disease-causing bacteria undergo a very slow multiplication process. At the onset, there will be no noticeable signs and symptoms. But as the bacteria gain foothold due to the weakened immune system, it will start to make your child feel sick. The following symptoms will appear: weakness or fatigue, weight loss, no appetite, chills, fever, sweating at night. .

MYTH: TB is a disease of the poor.

FACT: TB can happen to anybody. The less privileged members of society are more easily affected by TB due to poor living conditions and poor nutritional status. Since interaction with members of the population is inevitable, possible transmission from person to person is likely to occur. Everyone is a potential victim, thus, a concerted effort from all walks of life to control the spread of the disease is of paramount importance.

MYTH: My child does not have TB because he has no signs and symptoms suggestive of TB.

FACT: The manifestation of TB is relative to the child's immunologic condition and nutritional status among others. Some children may never develop the obvious signs and symptoms like persistent coughing, night sweats and afternoon fevers but infection can already be lurking inside your child's body. A diagnostic tool most doctors use to detect childhood TB infection is tuberculin skin testing. Ask your doctor about it.

MYTH: TB is a disease to be ashamed of.

FACT: Again, TB can happen to anybody. Due to advances in both diagnosis and treatment options; TB is very much preventable and curable. All you have to do is visit your doctor for proper screening.

Make it a habit to visit your doctor regularly and have your child screened for TB.

We can stop TB

The best way to prevent cases of childhood tuberculosis is to find, diagnose and treat adults with active tuberculosis. Children do not usually contract TB from other children but rather; infected adults with TB usually pass the disease on to children. Treating adult cases of TB should reduce the number of cases of childhood TB.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

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Doctors successfully test powdered blood

STOCKHOLM—Swedish doctors have successfully used artificial blood to treat patients with a method they hope will eventually help revolutionize health care.

The artificial blood is made from donated real blood which normally has a shelf life of only 42 days. Now, instead of throwing that blood away after 42 days, doctors can use the red blood cells to produce a powder that can be stored for several years.

The powder can then be mixed into liquid form when needed, for example at the scene of an accident, and used immediately regardless of the patient's blood type.

Pierre LaFolie, chief physician at Stockholm's Karolinska Hospital, said that if artificial blood were approved for use it could lead to dramatic changes in health care.

"If this really works all the way, then mankind will have taken a big step forward. This is like landing on the moon," he told Swedish radio.

Powdered Blood

Better than real blood

LaFolie said synthetic blood could save time after an accident, noting that the blood would not need to be tested before being given to a patient and could be administered directly at the scene.

The synthetic blood has also been shown to transport oxygen through the body better than real blood, and this can help limit damage to the body, for example during a heart attack.

"In acute situations time is of the essence, within an hour all these things have to be done. That's why I think this artificial blood is so important for people," he said.

The blood would be used to complement a patient's own blood, not replace it, as real blood has qualities that the artificial blood lacks.

The synthetic blood has been developed by researchers in the United States—the exact process for developing it has been kept secret—and it has been tested for the first time on eight patients at Karolinska Hospital.

"There has been no sign that the blood would be rejected. This is a molecule that the body's immune system gladly welcomes," Prof. Bengt Fagrell, who is leading the study, told Swedish news agency TT.

Fagrell said the patients had been administered artificial blood made out of human red blood cells, but noted that red blood cells from any mammal could be used.

"We have chosen to use human blood for ethical reasons. But we could use blood within the entire mammal chain, such as cow blood," he said. *AFP*

A living legacy of vision

By Chin-Chin Regalado
Contributor

VENTURA

JOY Ventura was 2 months old when her parents noticed she was not normally responding to visual stimuli. A test revealed that Joy had a congenital form of corneal blindness.

When she was growing up in Binalonan, Pangasinan, Joy would come home from school covered in bruises because she kept stumbling, tripping and sliding. High school life for her was not as Sharon Cuneta's song had painted it to be. It was instead hazy blackboards, endless teasing and inevitably, self-pity.

Fate might have deprived Joy of a clear vision, but she had an indomitable spirit. Every time she fell, literally, Joy would pick herself up and continue to go to class.

Joy's condition was treatable, but she needed a donated cornea for a transplant. Her parents were determined to give Joy the vision she deserved but they did not have the financial means for the medical treatment. They sought help from Pangasinan Rep. Mark Cojuangco who referred them to the Santa Lucia International Eye Bank of Manila, an organization dedicated to addressing corneal blindness in the country.

Less than two months after, Joy received her first corneal transplant in the right eye at the UERM Memorial Medical Center. Less than a year later, she had a transplant in her left eye.

Now 20, Joy can visit the Our Lady of Manaoag Church in a nearby town all by herself. She goes to the mall on her own.

Joy can see because of the person who donated his, or her, corneas. That person, or his or her family, had allowed the harvesting of the corneas after he, or she, died.

More donors needed

Until very recently, Filipinos suffering from corneal blindness had virtually no hope of seeing again because of the scarcity of transplantable eye tissue, says Dr. Dominga Padilla, chair and president of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines.

Padilla says that through the foundation and its eye bank, the Santa Lucia International Eye Bank of Manila, there has now been a steady supply of high-quality eye tissue for transplant to those who are in need.

The institution, incidentally, also performs transplants all over the country.

At present, the foundation receives around 60 to 80 cornea donations a month.

But this is not enough, with 140 patients waiting for the gift of sight at any given time. The waiting period for a cornea usually reaches two months.

Says Dr. Padilla: "There's still so much more that we can and want to do. Right now, we can only service up to around 350 charity cases a year although we know that a lot more out there who deserve to receive the gift of sight but do not have the resources for the treatment."

The Eye Bank of Manila has been based at the Makati Medical Center since Oct. 16, 1995. Today, the Eye Bank looks forward to the challenge of overcoming the public stigma on organ donation and serving more patients, especially those who need it most.

For donations or sponsorships, the Eye Bank can be reached through 893-5995, or e-mail eyebank@info.com.ph. You may also visit its website www.eyebankphilippines.org.ph.

(The author is a transplant coordinator at the Santa Lucia International Eye Bank of Manila.)

What do we read?

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

NEXT to air, food and water, the most indispensable thing for me is books. I devour various kinds of tomes, from science expositions and biographies to classical novels and fantasies, from health and inspirational books to travel and literary nonfiction. Since I find real-life love more amazing and enduring, I seldom read romances, which happen to be practically on top of the reading list of most Filipinos.

Actually, romance novels are second on the top 10 list of the 2003 Social Weather Stations survey commissioned by the National Book Development Board.

Bible, Koran tops

The survey, "Reading Attitudes and Preferences of Filipinos," enumerates the most popular nonschool book categories of 1,200 adult Filipinos, with the percentage of respondents in parentheses: Bible or Koran (38 percent), romance (26 percent), cooking (7 percent), religion (7 percent), health (7 percent), references (6 percent), business (6 percent), politics (6 percent), history (5 percent), sports (4 percent).

The top two choices are significantly more popular than the rest.

The survey was conducted last March, and the respondents were equally divided among the regions: 300 respondents each from Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Equally divided between male and female, the respondents nevertheless hailed more from the rural areas (64 percent) and classes D (67.4 percent) and E (24.8 percent).

Simple literacy

The good news is 94 percent of Filipino adults read (or at least claim to read). But the bad news is this is simple literacy, the ability to read words used in daily life. Although not specifically addressed in this survey, it is believed that the percentage for functional literacy is lower.

The biggest percentage of nonreaders is found in the Visayas (10 percent) and Mindanao (10 percent), among those belonging to class E (10 percent) and among those who have had only some elementary education (15 percent).

Hardly surprising news, though quite disappointing.

While it is laudable that 22 percent of respondents read nonschool books weekly and some daily, 17 percent confessed to have read only one nonschool book in the past year, and a horrifying 43 percent read none.

Younger readers

Is age a factor? Perhaps. Among adults who have read nonschool books in the past year, those from 18-24 read more books on average (five) than older ones. Those in the 25-34 age group read an average of three books, whereas those above 35 read an average of two.

Is class a factor? Perhaps. Fifty-seven percent of Filipino adults prefer to read nonschool books in Tagalog, 30 percent prefer English and 13 percent prefer Cebuano. Seventy-three percent of classes ABC prefer to read in English, 59 percent of class D and 63 percent of class E prefer Tagalog, and 17 percent of class E prefer Cebuano.

Is library access a factor? Perhaps. Seventy-six percent of those who read do not borrow from libraries. In fact, the majority of respondents (regardless of region and socioeconomic class), do not borrow from libraries.

Why? Libraries do not exist in many areas, and those which exist are not well-stocked or maintained.

Good gifts

Ironically, even with these dismal results, respondents generally find books to be good gifts—costly but necessary—and reading to be a worthwhile activity.

Why do readers read? Ninety-one percent of those who read nonschool books do so to get information or gain additional knowledge, while 9 percent do so for enjoyment or amusement.

Fifteen percent bought at least one nonschool book for personal reading in the past year. The rest either borrowed books or received them as gifts.

Profile of Filipino readers

Dennis Gonzalez, NBDB chair, sums up the findings, saying that adult readership of nonschool books tends to be higher among those:

- With higher education levels
- Who attended private schools
- From upper socioeconomic levels
- With higher personal monthly income
- From urban areas
- Younger in age
- Who are not married
- Who have libraries in their homes and offices
- Living near bookstores and public libraries
- Whose social networks (friends, family and co-workers) also like to read.

I, a confirmed bibliophile, do fit most of the profile. My son also loves to read—especially on the floor of bookstores, in his school library, or during a book sale. I wish other Filipino kids had similar opportunities.

WIGGLE
WIGGLE
WIGGLE

Mind over matter

(First of two parts)

DISCOVER

Massie Santos Ballon

WE'RE NOT always aware of it, but every step we take and every move we make is the result of the brain giving the order, the spinal cord delivering the message to a specific limb, and the limb executing the motion.

Think of it as the chain of command in the movie "The Godfather." Vito Corleone had several layers of middlemen to hire hit men so no one could ever testify that Don Vito had given the order to put on the Hollywood producer's bed the severed head of the latter's beloved horse.

The problem is that when the chain of communication is broken, in this example, by the Godfather's near-death, or more generally by paralysis due to an accident or stroke, the brain and limbs cannot coordinate well because their middleman either has not delivered the message completely or could not deliver it at all.

Use your imagination

For several decades, medical researchers have worked on restoring that lost contact between limbs and brain by employing a variety of methods.

One of them is Dr. Jennifer Stevens, an assistant research professor affiliated with the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Northwestern University Medical School.

According to her website, she's examining possible causal links between internal processing of motor action and functional recovery. To do that, she and her colleagues use imagination to help their patients.

As explained in their paper published in the July issue of the Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Dr. Stevens et al. had two patients work in front of mirrors set up in such a way that when the patients were asked to imagine moving their paralyzed arms—being able to reach and grasp objects—their reflections made it appear as though the paralyzed arms were actually moving.

While the study's participants have not completely recovered from their strokes, the researchers reported that the positive setting of the therapy led to marked lasting improvements in the use of their arms.

Dr. Stevens attributes this to the fact that the same portion of the brain is activated when one thinks about moving an arm as when one actually moves it. Granted, this activity doesn't seem to do very much for restoring the connection between brain and muscle, but it suggests that regaining the lost functions takes belief and the right attitude to persevere.

Electronic middlemen

Let's move on from the power of positive thinking to the possibility of an electronic middleman.

Scientists from the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom and the Alfred Mann Foundation in California have teamed up to help people who've suffered strokes regain control of their paralyzed limbs.

The Alfred Mann Foundation specializes in implantable technology, having helped diabetics track their blood sugar levels and contributed to the development of cochlear implants for the hearing-impaired (it's currently working on developing an artificial retina). Right now it's working on ways to stimulate impaired neural and muscular functions, implanting their technology in human volunteers provided by the University of Southampton.

Implants

In this study, scientists will implant a tiny (two mm) electrode into the arms of six participants who have lost the use of that limb due to a stroke. The researchers hope the implant will act as the bionic middleman between the brain and the muscle so that the study volunteers can get back the use of their arms.

Interestingly, the patients will be able to control the signals sent to the electrode with a remote control of sorts. If they can't make the connection from brain to that arm directly, they could theoretically order their working arm to activate the switch that makes the inactive arm do what they had asked.

The Southampton study is interesting because it suggests that a single electrode could restore specific arm motor functions and it implies that you don't have to regenerate the damaged nerve to make the connection between the arm and the brain.

While we'll have to wait a year and a half to find out the results of this study, a couple of monkeys at Duke University seem to provide the much-needed hope that these electrodes will work.

Microwave cooking zaps vegetable nutrients, says study

COOKING by microwave is the worst way to preserve a key nutrient in vegetables, while steaming is the best, according to a Spanish study reported in the New Scientist.

Researchers from the national scientific research council Cebas-CSIC measured antioxidants, a compound believed to protect cells from damaging reactive chemicals called free radicals, in broccoli that had been either steamed, pressure-cooked, boiled or microwaved.

Steaming the veggies left the antioxidants almost untouched, but microwaving virtually eliminated them, probably because this heated the broccoli from inside and generated too high a temperature.

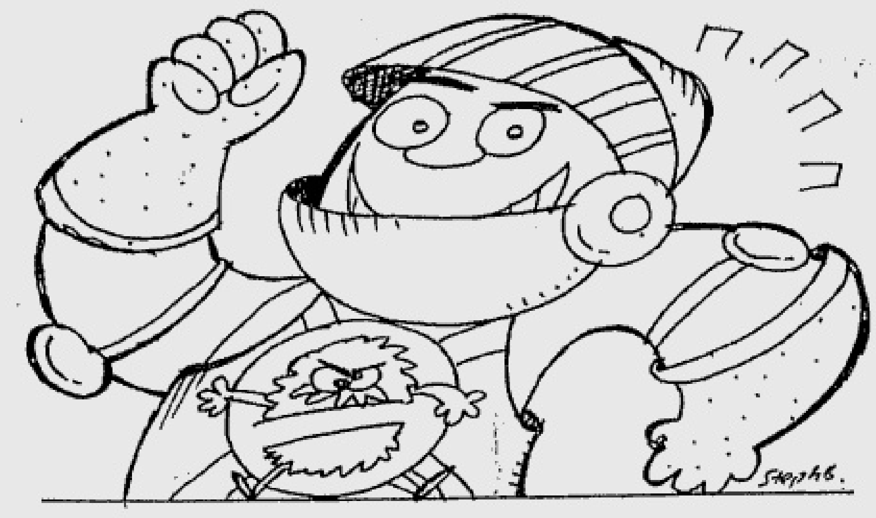
The other cooking methods performed somewhere between the two. They did not destroy as many antioxidants as microwaving, but a lot of the precious compounds leached out into the water during cooking, leaving less than half of the original amount of antioxidants in the vegetable.

In another study also reported in New Scientist, experts at VTT Technology in Espoo, Finland found that blanching vegetables before freezing them slashed levels of antioxidants by as much as a third.

Blanching vegetables—briefly scalding them with boiling water—is commonly used by frozen food companies to inactivate enzymes that could affect flavor.

The two studies are published in full in a specialist review, Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture.

Free radicals have been fingered as a possible culprit for cancer and other degenerative diseases, inflicting changes in a cell's DNA that are then replicated when the cell divides. *AFP*



Boosting immune system key to staying healthy

By Charles E. Buban

OUR immune system is an amazing protection mechanism inside our body. When it's working well, nothing—not even bacteria, microbes, viruses, toxins or parasites—would be able to get in our body to cause harm.

Unfortunately, there are many factors that affect our immune system's capacity to protect or react in time.

A US-based company claims to have found a way to make our immune system work at its optimum level—all the time.

E. Excel International, founded in 1987 in Springville, Utah, looked for all the nutrients our body needed to produce the necessary antibodies and "ammunitions" to ward off disease and combat illness.

Nutritional immunology, a branch of science that studies the relationship between nutrition and the immune system, became the centerpiece of the company.

Promoting overall health

E. Excel International founder and immunologist Dr. Jau Fei Chen believes that what one eats affects how the immune system functions, and most diseases are present in the body long before they give any outward manifestations and are associated with a malfunctioning of the immune system.

According to her, nutritional immunology promotes overall health regulation rather than repair the problem once it occurs.

Believing that herbs and plant foods build, renew and cleanse the body, the company formulated a line of products rich in a variety of nutrients formulated from plants. One of its award-winning products, the E. Excel Essence of Knowledge, containing ginseng berry, ginseng, royal jelly and grape, is designed to help boost mental focus and concentration.

PH Lau, E. Excel Philippines general manager, says science has shown that certain plant ingredients contain elements that may help reduce the risk of certain cancers and other illnesses.

She stresses that their products are foods and not medicines, and thus do not cause side effects associated with most drugs.

Through its growing network of individual distributors, the company's products are being established in nearly every part of the world, including at its branch offices in Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Luxembourg, France, Thailand, Korea and the Philippines.

Optimizing treatment strategies for diabetics

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

MEDICAL FILES

SOMETIME ago, I chanced upon one of my patients having a snack at the hospital cafeteria. He's diabetic, markedly obese, has high cholesterol levels and just had a heart attack a few months earlier. That afternoon, I realized what kind of a dietitian's nightmare he was and how ineffective I had been in motivating him about his proper diet. In fact, I think he was more effective in demotivating me as he flushed down a big piece of chocolate-icing cake with a bottle of regular Coke.

It's sad that many diabetics do not seem to realize the big risk they're exposed to as they continue with what top endocrinologist Dr. Tommy Ty-Willing of the Metropolitan Hospital describes as "sinful" diets.

Diabetic couples

The spouse is a key factor who can influence a diabetic's dietary habits, but in many cases what prevails is the attitude "If you can't lick them, join them."

Dr. Joy Fontanilla, a US-trained endocrinologist at the Asian Hospital, says a study from the United Kingdom showed that spouses of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) might have twice the risk of developing the disease compared with spouses of people without diabetes.

Dr. Fontanilla is not surprised with the results of the study. "I frequently see pairs of significant others together as patients," she says.

Dr. Fontanilla says environmental factors such as obesity, unhealthy dietary habits and physical inactivity play a huge role in the rapid rise in the prevalence of DM. Spouses may share a number of these risk factors because they're likely to share common habits and preferences when it comes to diet and activity.

The risk increases among those who are at least 45, are overweight, physically inactive, have relatives with diabetes, have high blood pressure, abnormal cholesterol levels or polycystic ovaries, have been known to have prediabetes or gestational diabetes or have delivered babies over nine pounds, says Dr. Fontanilla.

Diabetes kills 2.8-million people every year. And while it may not kill all its victims, it will make a lot of them disabled or blind, or leave them with disarticulated toes or an amputated limb (both limbs in some patients) due to gangrene.

DM afflicts over 135-million people worldwide. Dr. Ty-Willing says this is expected to skyrocket to 350 million by the year 2025, and the biggest increase is expected in Asia and Africa where DM could become three times more prevalent than it is today.

Unless we pay this problem serious attention, we may end up being a victim ourselves.

"The good news is that we can take proactive steps to prevent it," says Dr. Fontanilla. "Recent studies have shown that in patients at high risk of DM, losing weight, eating a lot less fat (especially saturated fat), taking a lot of fiber and exercising at least 150 minutes per week reduce their chances of developing diabetes considerably."

Educating the public

The efforts of the Philippine Diabetes Association (PDA), headed by Dr. Rosa Allyn Sy, will go a long way in educating the public about this killer disease.

The PDA will hold its annual convention at the Century Park Hotel from Nov. 25-26 with the theme "Optimizing Treatment Strategies."

Professors Martin Silink, Augusto Litonjua and Dy Bun Yok will speak on "Issues in Childhood Diabetes," "Requiem for the Beta Cell" and "Angioplasty and Revascularization Procedures in Diabetic Patients," respectively.

This year's convention will feature the PDA Research Workshop where four young investigators will be awarded the Aventis, PDA-Abbott, PDA-GSK and PDA-Pfizer research grants worth P100,000 each.

The convention will hold lay forums for diabetic patients and those who are at high-risk of developing DM on Nov. 22. It will be a good opportunity to ask experts about unproven remedies such as ampalaya capsules.

My cousin's wife recently had her right leg amputated. Her blood sugar had reached critically high levels because she discontinued taking her medications, believing that her ampalaya supplements were sufficient to control DM and prevent its complications.

She now vows to heed the diabetes experts' verdict (including that of the PDA president's) that ampalaya preparations are still unproven scientifically and should not replace proven medicines to control DM.

Fundoscopy

The eyes can give a lot of valuable information on the health status of diabetics. The examination wherein the doctor peeps into the eyes is called fundoscopy, which is different from the unproven science of iridology.

If the doctor sees that the tiny blood vessels in the fundus of the eyes are already constricted, or worse, when there are already bleeding spots and exudates, there is no reason to be optimistic about how this patient will fare in the next five years.

During the convention, patients will get a chance to have a free eye examination and other tests. (Call the PDA secretariat at 531-1278.)

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PSE revises commission scheme on stock market transactions

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange has revised the commission system on stock trade transactions, replacing the current uniform rate of 25 basis points or 1/4 of 1 percent of the value of the transactions.

The PSE said in a memorandum yesterday that the board approved the fine tuning of the minimum commission rate system during its meeting last Wednesday, in a bid to boost the profitability of the long suffering stock brokerage industry.

Under the new system, the commission rate would vary depending on the value of the transaction.

The bigger the transaction value, the lower the minimum commission rate.

The new rules provide that brokerage firms would have to charge a minimum commission rate of 25 basis points for transactions worth a maximum of P100 million.

For transactions worth P100 million to P500 million, the minimum commission rate shall be 15 basis points, while those worth between P500 million and P1 billion would be charged a minimum rate of 8 basis points.

On the other hand, transactions worth above P1 billion would be exempted from the minimum commission rate system, which means that the commission rates could be negotiated.

Brokers have been at odds over the uniform commission rate. Smaller brokerage firms claimed that the system favored the large brokerage firms that had the financial capability to negotiate very low commission rates just to get the deal.

With the variable commission rate scheme, most brokers were optimistic that it would help improve their profitability. The system would also allow the brokerage firms to compete on the quality of service, rather than price or cost.

Most brokerage firms are in dire financial straits because of the lackluster activity in the local stock market, with most of the trades cornered by large brokerage firms.

The PSE said it would impose fines ranging from P2.5 million and P10 million and/or suspension from trading for between 5 and 15 days on brokerage firms caught violating the minimum commission rate system.

The minimum commission rate scheme, which was adopted last year, was based on similar practices in the stock exchanges of Thailand, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

Taiwanese firms urged to invest in electronics

By Michelle V. Remo

THE PHILIPPINES is wooing Taiwanese companies engaged in the production of raw materials for electronics to set up manufacturing facilities here to boost the local electronics industry's exports.

Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel Roxas II said the government was in talks with a number of Taiwanese firms to make the Philippines a production site for five priority products, namely: leadframe, substrates, molding compound, liquid crystal display and wafer fabrication.

Roxas said the country has urged the Taiwanese firms to follow the move of ULead, a leading software-producing company in Taiwan that has set up an office in the Philippines.

Aside from electronics companies, Roxas said the government likewise encouraged Taiwanese companies engaged in information technology services to take advantage of the growing business process outsourcing and call center industries.

The government invited Taiwanese companies to invest in the electronics industry as part of the two countries' efforts to increase trade relations in various industries.

The Philippines recently sent seven food manufacturers on a trade mission to Taiwan in a bid to tap the Taiwanese market. These firms were identified as Figaro Coffee Co., Central Macaroni Inc., Pacific Isles International Trading Inc., Ritz Food Product Corp., Leslie Corp., Laura Food Products and RFM Corp.

The DTI reported that business matching discussions took place during the trade mission in Taiwan, which the Philippine Trade and Investment Center (PTIC) in Taipei helped organize.

SECRETARY Roberto Romulo (right) of the Public-Private Task Force on the Reconstruction and Development of Iraq recently met with UK special envoy Sir Jeremy Greenstock (left) in Baghdad to discuss the Philippines' capabilities in health care, education and IT training and the possibility of its providing assistance to Iraq in these fields.

GOINGS ON

Animated film competition

STUDENTS and aspiring animators will have the opportunity to demonstrate their creative skills, wit, tech-smarts and cool stuff in "Animazing Shorts 2004."

One of the first annual amateur competitions of its kind in the country, the short animated film tilt will be staged simultaneously with "e-Services Philippines: IT Outsourcing Conference and Exhibition," the country's flagship IT trade fair on Feb. 12-13 2004 at the Edsa Shangri-la Hotel.

"The Philippines is brimming with world-class talent, all waiting to be discovered," says Angelita Madulid, caretaker of the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (Citem).

Las Piñas gets Figaro

RESIDENTS of Las Piñas can now enjoy the best in specialty coffee with the opening of a Figaro store at Mstar Mall Alabang-Zapote Road, Las Piñas City.

Las Piñas is known for the annual celebration of the Bamboo Organ Festival that speaks of a rich cultural exchange between Europe and Asia through the cities of Graz, Austria and Las Piñas, Philippines.

The Figaro Coffee Company, known for its top quality flavor, is the country's fastest growing coffee shop chain. Figaro serves freshly roasted brewed coffee, sandwiches, pizza and pasta in a European-like setting.

New Candy Corner outlets

TWO Candy Corner outlets were opened in SM Lucena, Lucena City last Oct. 3. Located on the ground floor is a Candy Corner franchise outlet while on the second level, inside Toy Kingdom, is a company-owned counter.

Lucena is considered one of the most important commercial and trading centers of Southern Luzon.

Lucena has flourished into a highly urbanized area with business establishments sprouting in every corner of the city. The candy business is among the local businesses bringing healthy competition among local and outside investors.

In the seven years of its existence, Candy Corner continues its mission of exciting the public with the total candy experience.

DHL to put in more funds in RP

By Abigail L. Ho

BELGIUM-BASED express and logistics firm DHL Express has committed to continue investing in the Philippines despite concerns raised by some foreign investors in the wake of the controversy surrounding the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 project.

German airport operator Fraport AG has filed an arbitration case with the World Bank's International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes against the Philippine government. Fraport is seeking compensation worth $425 million for the investment it has made in the yet-to-be-opened Naia 3.

DHL Asia Pacific chief executive John Mullen said in an interview yesterday that the raging controversy would not deter the firm from making additional investments in the country.

"Investment and industrial arguments happen in every country in the world among investors, customers and suppliers all the time," he told reporters.

He added that DHL would not make any significant investment in a certain country without first conducting extensive research on the policy climate there, particularly those that would affect the company's operations.

"Before we make an investment, we do our very best to make sure that we look at all the issues and the risks. Usually, we get it right, but we make some mistakes too. It's just part of the business," he said.

Mullen said DHL only knew about the Naia 3 controversy through articles that company executives read in local newspapers. Despite these stories, the company was still keen on continuing to invest in the country.

DHL has infused around $32 million in the Philippines over the past two years to further enhance and expand its existing network in the country.

Unilever expands plant capacity

By Michelle V. Remo

UNILEVER Philippines Inc. has expanded its production capacity due to the growing demand for its personal care and food products in markets abroad, especially in Asia and Europe.

According to Unilever chair and chief executive officer Howard Belton, the company has decided to pour in investments for additional plant facilities to meet the growing demand abroad, especially for its Rexona and Knorr product lines.

Belton said Unilever expected a 100-percent rise in export sales of Rexona Ministick, currently marketed in 27 European and Asian countries.

From 20 million sticks annually, he said Unilever has projected an increase in its export of Rexona Ministick to 40 million pieces next year.

Unilever also plans to tap the United States as another export market for Rexona Ministick.

Aside from Rexona Ministick, Unilever's Knorr food products are also experiencing a steady increase in sales to the United States and Saudi Arabia.

He added that the company intends to strengthen its export operations to take advantage of moves to further liberalize markets in the Ascan (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) region.

Belton also said the significant increase in local demand was expected to help Unilever hit its target of posting a growth of at least 10 percent this year.

He said Unilever's products that are posting strong sales are Surf laundry bar and powder, Sunsilk shampoo, Rexona deodorant and Lady's Choice food products.

"Surf laundry soaps have been a very big success this year. The Surf Jumbo Cut (laundry bar), in particular, was a very big hit," said Belton in a briefing with reporters.

Belton said Unilever was also set to launch additional products, including a new variant for its Close-up toothpaste.

StanChart advertisement violates sub judice rule, says Chavez

FORMER Solicitor General Francisco Chavez, counsel for former Standard Chartered Bank human resources development officer Manuel V. Baviera, yesterday said the bank and its lawyers had violated the *sub-judice* rule for commenting on the merits of a pending case against the bank in a paid newspaper advertisement.

The advertisement, published early this week, centered on the lifting of the hold departure order slapped on Standard Chartered Bank's senior officials. However, Chavez, in a statement, said "they likewise freely commented on the merit of a case pending before the Department of Justice and the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC), which is in violation of the *sub judice* rule."

Baviera, Chavez' client, earlier filed an estafa case against the bank.

"The lifting of the HDO is not an indication of the weakness of Mr. Baviera's cause but the convenience obtained by its lawyers through proper connections," said Chavez.

Elena R. Torrijos

INTEREST RATES

October 24, 2003
MART 1 Rates

Benchmark Interest Rates	MART1 24-Oct-03	MART1 23-Oct-03
1 Month	6.2769	6.2554
3 Months	6.2865	6.268
6 Months	7.3	7.2967
1 Year	7.9	7.8683
2 Years	8.6304	8.5133
3 Years	9.2375	9.17
4 Years	9.9625	9.95
5 Years	10.3161	10.31
7 Years	10.9464	10.9333
10 Years	11.1054	11.085
20 Years	11.5731	11.5875
25 Years	12.0268	12.035

SOURCE : MART/BLOOMBERG

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 24, 2003)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	17.5	17.5	17.25	17.25	20.000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	44.5	44.5	44	44.5	1,167,500
China Banking Corp.	660	660	660	660	3.040
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	19	19	19	19	10.000
Citystate Savings Bank	15	15	15	15	2.000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	35	35.5	35	35	70.000
Export And Ind. Bank Inc.	0.73	0.73	0.72	0.72	720.000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27	27	26.5	26.5	393 000
Philippine National Bank	28	28	27.5	27.5	45.000
Phil. Savings Bank	27	27	27	27	5.000
Union Bank of the Phil.	28	28	28	28	12.600
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Manulife Financial Corp.	1575	1575	1570	1570	250
Pci Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	182.000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1320	1325	1320	1320	1.240
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	28.5	28.5	27.5	28.5	8.200
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	2.150.000
Globe Telecom Inc.	740	745	740	745	41.650
Ipeople Inc.	1.02	1.04	1.02	1.04	20.000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.046	0.046	0.044	0.045	9.000.000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	101.000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	0.82	0.82	0.81	0.82	4.570.000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	150.000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	740	750	740	740	95.460
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	2,500,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	13.75	13.75	13.25	13.25	288.600
Manila Electric Co. B	20.75	20.75	19.75	19.75	1.102.000
Petron Corp.	2.02	2.02	1.98	2	4.419.000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.94	1.94	1.9	1.9	40.000
Trans-Asia Oil And Energy	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	60.000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	3.1	3.15	3.1	3.15	1.010.000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	160.000
William,Gothong & Aboitiz	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	5.000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	150.000
Union Cement Corp.	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	110.000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	148.000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	28	28.5	28	28.5	46.500
Jollibee Foods Corp.	16.75	17	16.75	17	166.700
San Miguel Corp. A	56.5	56.5	56	56.5	20.100
San Miguel Corp. B	62.5	63	62.5	63	20.400
Universal Robina Corp.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	22.000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	4.9	5	4.9	5	4,025.000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	10.000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	220.000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	710.000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	15.000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.2	2.000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.58	0.58	0.56	0.56	10,140.000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	3.800.000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	410.000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	1.000.000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.04	1.04	520.000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	17.75	18	17.5	18	999.400
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.22	0.235	0.22	0.235	450.000
Global Equities Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	1,200.000
Ionics Inc.	1.62	1.64	1.6	1.6	225.000
Megaworld Corp.	1.04	1.06	1.02	1.04	4,792.000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	3.260.000
Music Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	430 000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	40.000
Roxas Holdings Inc	1	1	1	1	30.000
Solid Group Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	50,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0775	0.08	0.075	0.075	1,900.000
SPI Technologies Inc	14	14	14	14	3.100
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	1,830.000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	10.000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	380.000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	420.000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	29	29	28.5	29	973.000
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.5	10.25	10.5	1.300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1.900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	2.200
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.25	10.25	3.200
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	10.000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	1.367 000
Araneta Properties Inc	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	200.000
Cebu Holdings Inc	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	20.000
C & P Homes Inc	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	20 000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.23	0.235	0.225	0.225	4.850.000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	1,070.000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.12	1.14	1.08	1.08	16,925.000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	1,310,000
SM Development Corp.	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	2.000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7	7	6.9	7	5.576.000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	50.000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	20.000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.23	0.23	0.225	0.225	1.730.000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.31	5,400.000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.008	0.008	0.0075	0.0075	22.000.000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0085	0.0085	0.008	0.008	92.000.000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	5.000.000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	500.000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	2.380.000
OIL					
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	27.000.000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	9.000.000

	SHARES	VALUE(P)
Bank & Fin Svc.	2.634.630	72.005 540 00
Comm'l & Ind'l.	76.268 010	8.395 379 310.00
PRO	31.340.000	68.000.040.00
Mining	129.080 000	4.059.700.00
OIL	36 000 000	115.200 00
GRAND TOTALS	275 322 640	8,539.559.790.00
	AVERAGES	
Bank & Fin Svc.	436 13	DOWN 6.99
Comm'l & Ind'l.	1,999 50	UP 7.18
PRO	609.19	DOWN 3.23
Mining	1,605.68	DOWN 36.65
OIL	1.30	DOWN 0 04
SME	100.00	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	823.19	DOWN 5.78
Composite	1,363 40	DOWN 1.04

NO. OF ADVANCES: 16; NO. OF DECLINES: 45; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 35; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 96; NO. OF TRADES: 1,837

DISCLOSURES

PHILIPPINE Telegraph and Telephone Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Nov. 28, 3 p.m. at the 4/F, Amorsolo Grand Ballroom of Holiday Inn Galleria Manila, Pasig City. Stockholders of record as of Oct. 24 are entitled to vote at the meeting.

***

ARANETA Properties Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Nov. 24, 10 a.m. at the Turf Room of Manila Polo Club, Makati City.

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PCI Leasing and Finance Inc. bought 221,600 of its own shares at P1.32 per share.

***

THE BOARD of **William, Gothong and Aboitiz Inc.** approved the increase in the company's authorized capital stock from 1.625 billion to 3.123 billion common shares to accommodate the shares to be issued upon the declaration of stock dividend. The company will hold a special stockholders' meeting on Dec. 18 with record date on Nov. 6.

***

PHILIPPINE Trust Co. declared a 145.533-percent stock dividend of 218.3 million shares. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

October 24, 2003 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.848320326	1.000000	55.241000
Japan	Yen	0.007739	0.009123	0.504000
United Kingdom	Pound	1.437479	1.694500	93.605900
Hongkong	Dollar	0.109418	0.128982	7.125100
Switzerland	Franc	0.645749	0.761209	42.049900
Canada	Dollar	0.648514	0.764468	42.230000
Singapore	Dollar	0.486562	0.573559	31.684000
Australia	Dollar	0.594062	0.700280	38.684200
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.250306	2.652661	146.535600
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.226213	0.266660	14.730600
Brunei	Dollar	0.485171	0.571919	31.593400
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.0001	0.000118	0.006500
Thailand	Baht	0.021315	0.025126	1.388000
UAE	Dirham	0.23098	0.272279	15.041000
Euro	Euro	1	1.178800	65.118100
Argentina	Peso	0.298705	0.352113	19.451100
Brazil	REAL	0.296098	0.349040	19.281300
Denmark	Kroner	0.134516	0.158567	8.759400
India	Rupee	0.01876	0.022114	1.221600
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.223272	0.263193	14.539000
Mexico	New Peso	0.076035	0.089630	4.951300
New Zealand	Dollar	0.5179	0.610501	33.724700
Norway	Kroner	0.121218	0.142892	7.893500
Pakistan	Rupee	0.014753	0.017391	0.960700
South Africa	Rand	0.121733	0.143499	7.927000
Korea	Won	0.000713	0.000841	0.046500
Sweden	Kroner	0.110359	0.130091	7.186400
Syria	Pound	0.020199	0.023810	1.315300
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.025053	0.029533	1.631400
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000532	0.000627	0.034600

People, Events & Products

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Editor Aries Espinosa

Galerie des Temps: a watch shop for Rolex enthusiasts

THE RECENTLY opened watch shop, Galerie des Temps, located at the second floor of the Shangri-La Hotel in Makati, offers people the chance to buy pre-owned antique Rolex watches which are as good as new yet cost almost half the price of a new one.

Galerie des Temps is the Makati branch of the already successful Time Gallery shop, which has been operating in Virra Mall, Greenhills since 1999. What makes Galerie des Temps different from its Greenhills-based counterpart is its accessibility and security for tourists and upper class customers who are based in Makati. "Some people who live in the south don't want to go all the way to Greenhills because of the traffic," Moses Go, Galerie des Temps' general manager, explains. For this reason, he chose to set up his newest branch in the heart of Makati and inside one of the most upscale hotels in the city.

Aside from being able to find great deals for Rolex and other high-end watches like Cartier, Omega, Bulgari, and Tag Heuer, another advantage of buying from Galerie des Temps is the extensive knowledge the people there have about Rolex watches in general. Antique Rolex collectors as well as new customers, can be assured that they will be dealing with a shop manned by people who are knowledgeable and dependable.

Like Time Gallery, Galerie des Temps not only sells pre-owned Rolex watches, but also buys classic antique watches and offers repair services. If customers want to make their antique Rolex look like it came right off the assembly line, Galerie des Temps can have the watch repaired and tuned up by expert technicians who have experienced working for Rolex centers in Saudi Arabia and other parts of the world.

It may be tempting to just get an imitation Rolex and try to pass it off as real during a party or meeting, but Go feels doing that defeats the whole purpose of owning a high-end watch. This is why getting a pre-owned watch at Galerie des Temps is the best way to have the best of both worlds. (Galerie des Temps and Time Gallery are not in any way connected with Rolex Phils.)

Project E
HANDS ON MANILA

MIRANT PHILIPPINES, HANDS ON MANILA SIGNING

Mirant Philippines signs up with Hands On Manila Foundation Inc (HOM) as its first corporate partner. As a partner, Mirant will support HOM's volunteer programs while HOM will work with Mirant in establishing and implementing their employee volunteer program as part of their corporate social responsibility initiative. HOM is a volunteer organization whose vision is to build a community where the spirit of volunteerism prevails. Shown in picture (from left) are: Wynn Wynn Ong (vice president, Hands On Manila Foundation Inc), Roberto Calingo (executive director, Mirant Phils Foundation Inc), Edgardo Bautista (president, Mirant Phils), Cesar Purisima (trustee, Hands On Manila Foundation Inc), Alexandra Romualdez (trustee, Hands On Manila Foundation Inc), and Ma. Cristina Olbes (foundation secretrary, Hands On Manila Foundation).

WHAT'S NEWS TXT GAME WINNER

Annalyn Marasigan of Davao City recently won one Sony Ericsson T100 mobile phone in the Philippine Daily Inquirer's What's News Txt Game. In photo is her sister, Charo Anne Marasigan, as authorized representative showing off the brand new mobile phone.

RADIO VERITAS HOST TAKES OATH

Radio Veritas, Kalasag ng Konsyumer host Angelo 'Mike' Ocampo took his oath of office to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as president of Philippine Consumers Welfare Union (PCWU), Philippine National Caregiver Association (PNCA) and ATM Tri-Media Alliance Services in a ceremony which was held recently in Malacañang Palace.

PNRC CITES SMART

The Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) recently presented Smart Communications Inc. (Smart) with a certificate of appreciation for being one of the staunch supporters of the various initiatives of the PNRC. Photo shows Smart community relations Grace Dizer receiving the certificate of appreciation from Dr. Cecilia Francisco, manager of the blood services department of the PNRC national headquarters.

Honda Christmas 'CARrolls'

SING a merry tune this Christmas. If you're good and Santa notices, you may end up driving home a brand new Honda CR-V, Civic VTi or City. That is, if you buy the lucky Honda Wave Alpha, Wave 125 or Dream 125, or XRM "cub" motorcycles. Santa's going to be needing a bigger sleigh, and some really strong reindeer this Christmas, with the "Honda Christmas CARrolls" sales promo.

This is how it works. A Honda CR-V, Honda Civic VTi and Honda City will be raffled off to lucky buyers of the aforementioned cub motorcycles. The car to be won depends on the kind of motorcycle purchased. Buyers of the Honda Wave Alpha get the chance to win the Honda CR-V, while those who purchase a Honda Wave 125 or Dream 125 will have the Honda Civic VTI raffled off to them. The buyers of Honda XRM then, get the chance to drive home the new Honda City.

All this is made easier with Honda dealers' low down payment plans for its cub motorcycles. The pioneer in manufacturing the 4-stroke motorcycle in the Philippines, Honda Philippines Inc has been making it easier for motorcycle enthusiasts to enjoy the high quality, the efficiency, economy, environment-friendliness and durability of its cub motorcycles. The Honda Wave Alpha may be purchased with a down payment of P2,800. The Honda Dream 125 and the Honda Wave 125 have down payment rates of P3,500 and P3,800 respectively, while the Honda XRM has a down payment of P4,200. These prices do not include insurance, Land Transportation Office registration and freight charges. What's more, each purchase of a Honda cub motorcycle during the promo period entitles the buyer to a P300 gift certificate. During this merry season, Honda Philippines Inc is giving the buyers even more reason to rush to the nearest dealer for their cub motorcycles of choice by offering some of the most sought after Honda cars in this latest Christmas raffle. Honda motorcycle enthusiasts will be getting the chance to sing "CARrolls" of hope as the season of joy approaches its climax.

Honda Phils Inc is also the leader in the Philippine motorcycle industry. With its latest sales promo, the company hopes to continue its dominance of the motorcycle market, with a little help from its automotive cousins. The result is one of the most exciting Christmas times for Honda motorcycle enthusiasts, in the land with longest Yuletide season in the world.

Product FILES

Hot Wheels T-Wrecks

HOT WHEELS introduces its newest collection for the holidays, the T-Wrecks. The T-Wrecks playset from Hot wheels is the only playset where kids have the power to battle and destroy a gigantic T-Rex. The T-Rex "eats" and spits cars out, while kids knock the captive car right out of his jaws. There is a kid-controlled attack ramp to launch cars and a motorized booster to shoot cars up the T-Rex's back. It is available nationwide at leading toy stores and is exclusively distributed by Richwell Trading Corp located at the Richwell Building, #25 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City, tel. no. 732-5141.

Speed for men

THE Speed is back, by popular demand. The overlasted construction combines synthetic, breathable mesh and leather uppers in a handsomely sleek design. It also boasts of a concealed phylon midsole. The contemporary styling has never been more vibrant. No wonder it is a huge hit.

Sunset Party at Terrazas de Punta Fuego

WITH the breathtaking Nasugbu sunset at its backdrop, Terrazas de Punta Fuego will celebrate the completion of their new clubhouse facilities with a cocktail party on Oct. 25 aptly called Terrazas Sunset. Members and their guests will have the chance to view the new clubhouse, Club Punta Fuego's largest beach club. For more information Club Punta Fuego members can call Judith Aquino at 809-7316 or 0918-9363855.

LEXMEDIA BUYS HEIDELBERG SHEEFTED PRESS

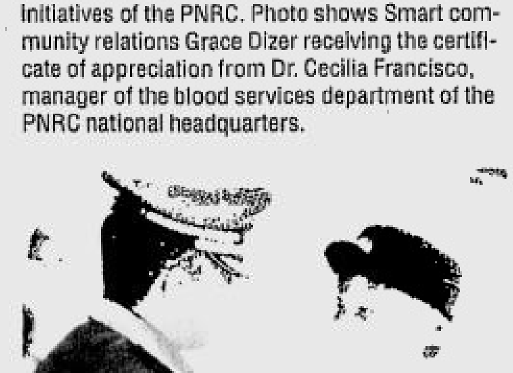
LexMedia Digital Corp, the magazine and book-printing arm of the Print Town Group, recently announced its purchase of the latest printing press from Heidelberg Philippines Inc. Under an agreement signed with the world's leading graphics equipment manufacturer, LexMedia Digital will take delivery before the end of the year of a Heidelberg CD-102, a five color sheefted press that can run at 15,000 copies per hour. The sheefted press is part of LexMedia's P500 million peso investment program that will provide end-to-end solutions for publishers. LexMedia currently provides pre-press services to newspapers and magazine publishers. Photo shows Peter Hoerning, 2nd from left, president of Heidelberg Phils shaking the hand of Brian Ng, VP and general manager of LexMedia Digital Corp's commercial division, upon signing the contract to purchase the Heidelberg CD-102. Also shown in photo is Mildred Lorzano, Heidelberg account manager, and Dennis Valdes, LexMedia president. For more information about LexMedia call them at 811-3383, fax 892-4966.

MOLDEX REALTY, BANCO DE ORO CONTRACT SIGNING

Moldex Realty was recently appointed by Banco de Oro as its marketing arm for Villa Caceres, a prime subdivisions near Enchanted Kingdom in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. Photo shows the top officials of the two companies during the contract signing in Banco de Oro head office in Ortigas Center recently. Seated are (from right) Rey Joseph Z. Vinuya, president, Moldex Group of Companies; Yvet V. Andalis, president, Modelx Relaty Marketing Inc.; Nestor V. Tan, president, BDO Universal Bank; Ma. Victoria F. Dela Cruz, senior assistant vice president, property management and credit services department, BDO Universal Bank and Daisy A. Manio, vice president, BDO Realty Corp Standing are (from left) Joseph Ramil B. Lombos, senior assistant vice president of BDO Realty Corp., Mary C. Go, AVP, property management credit services department, sales operations and marketing support unit, BDO Universal Bank; Jessica C. Hernandez, project sales management group, Moldex Realty Marketing Inc.

BAND COMPETITION WINNERS

Shattered Silence Band of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) won the Goldilocks Foodshop PaskilaBand 2003 held at SM Bacoor. The next band competition is on Nov. 15, 4 p.m. at SM City Fairview. Interested bands may call 815-8466 (Earl/Ethel) or 303-0780 (Tess) for inquiries. Shown in photo are (seated) AB Communications MSD head Earl Navarro, and Shattered Silence band members (standing from left): Alvin Cahinhinan, Mark Hoyla, Orland Asuncion, Shinal Abiden Dilabakun, AB Communications account assistant Ethel Diño and Goldilocks Foodshop marketing officer Gary Asajar.



CERTEZA CHAIR RECEIVES AWARDS

Certeza Surveying and Aerophoto Systems Inc chairman of the board and 3303rd Reserve Air Reconnaissance squadron commander, Rhonda Jane Certeza-Figuerres, was awarded by PAF commanding general, Maj. Gen. Nestor Santillian, the Military Merit Medal and Military Commendation Medal for her invaluable support to the Reserve Airlift and Tactical Support Group (RATSG) under group commander, Col. Ernesto Levanza during its 34th anniversary held recently.

Clips

Strategic Management seminar

THE CORNELL Club of the Philippines and Discovery Suites present Thomas Cullen, Ph.D., in a one-day Strategic Management seminar on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at the Magellan Room of the Discovery Suites. Professor Cullen is currently the associate dean for Industry and International Affairs and associate professor of Management, Human Resources and Business Strategy in the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University in New York. The seminar's main objective is to apply core management concepts of an organization's way of competing in the already competitive market place. Seminar fee is P3,500 inclusive of morning and afternoon snacks, lunch and course materials, as well as a wine tasting session of French wines led by Jerome Phillipon of Sommelier Selection. For inquiries and reservations, call 752-5678 and look for Reicelle or Raeanna.

All-Filipino Halloween

SEE THE Pinoy fictional characters such as super heroes and comic-book characters as well as creatures from local horror stories come to life as Ayala Land's Ferndale Homes celebrates its first all-Filipino motif Halloween Open House on Oct 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Ferndale Homes, along Sampaguita Ave., Quezon City. Join Darna, Captain Barbell, Valentina, the duwende, and more in a whole day affair where lots of games, surprises, tricks and treats await not only the children but their parents as well. Awards will also be given to participants with the best costume and the scariest home. Ferndale Homes is one of Ayala Land's prestigious residential subdivisions. For details, call 848-5000.

Casio Musical Affair

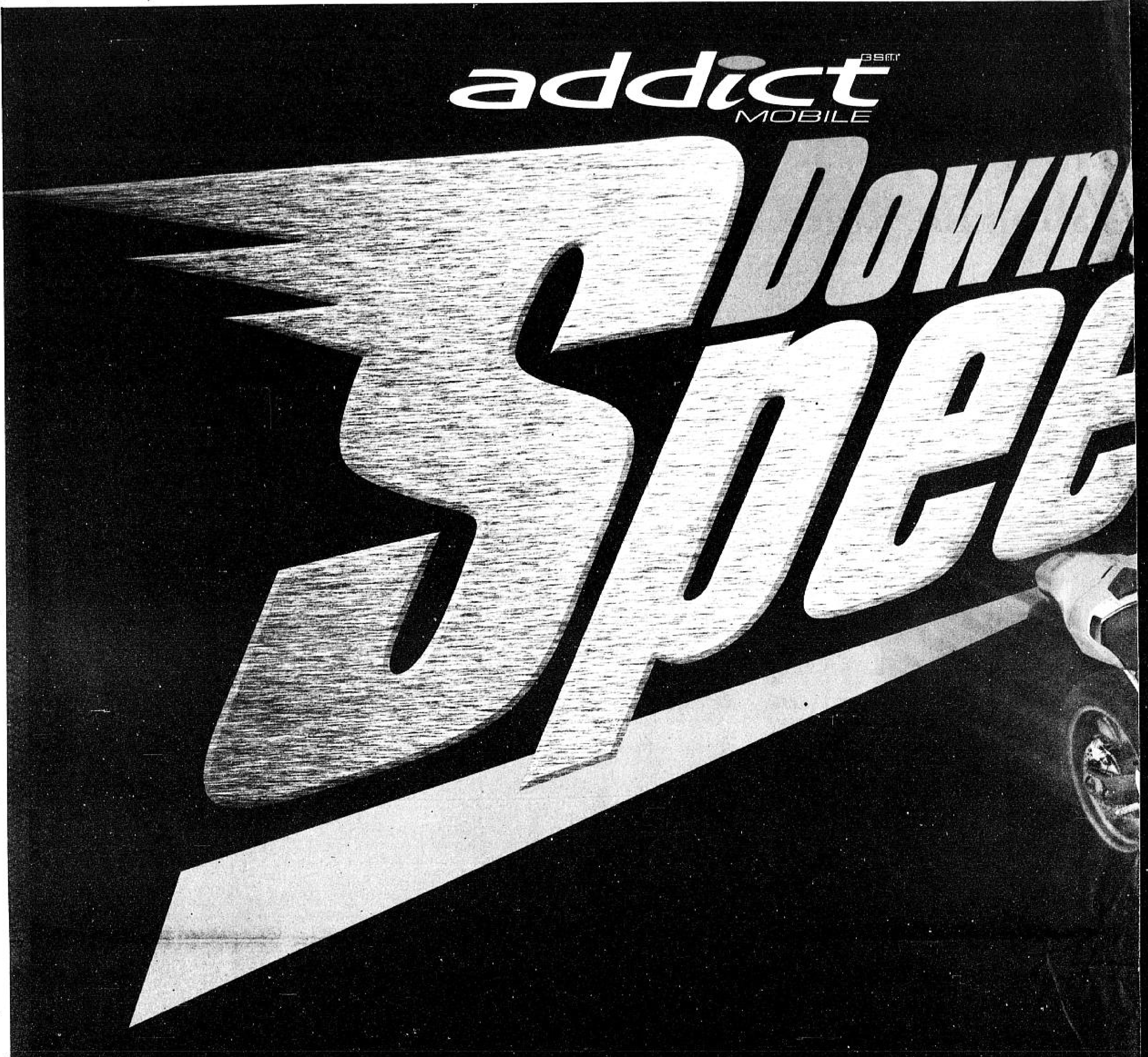
A RARE opportunity to fall in love with the creative part of music-making before even "learning the details" of playing a conventional musical instrument is unfolding on Oct. 25 to 31 at Ali Mall, Araneta Center, Cubao Quezon City. Dubbed "Casio Musical Affair - Musical Intimacy in the Malls", the special musical event features an exhibit of Casio digital pianos and other Casio electronic musical instruments. Consumers may avail of special discounts on the Casio product array. An acoustic serenade may be enjoyed at 4 to 7 p.m. daily for the duration of the week-long event. For inquiries, call up Jay Pabularcon or Belle delos Santos of Projectionals at 687-7486 to 87. Or visit the Casio Music Circle located at Level 2, City Center Bldg., 328 Ave., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila, with tel. no. 705-1519.

'American Express Members Only Sale'

AMERICAN Express Cardmembers are entitled to up to 70 percent discounts on world-class brands during the 'American Express Members Only Sale', an exclusive shopping experience at the Rustan's Department Store in Makati. The four day-event (from Oct. 22 to 25) will be held at an exclusive area at the 6th floor of the store. Cardmembers will also be entitled to win P100,000 worth of Rustan's gift certificates. For every P5,000 worth of single or accumulated receipts during this sale, they will be given one raffle coupon for a chance to win. Deadline of entries is on Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. The raffle draw will be on Oct. 27, 11 a.m. at the 6th floor of Rustan's. Winners will be notified through registered mail. Call 814-4777 for details.

Mission Fair 2003

Saint Andrew's School of Parañaque City will be having their Mission Fair '03 with the theme "Every Member of the Faithful is called to Holiness and Mission" on Oct. 24 to 25, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the school campus. Movie and TV celebrities will grace the Bingo games and Coke Mini-concert.



Download your addictions for a chance to win:

1 of 4 ADDICT MINI COOPERS or 1 of 2 A

Plus! **FREE CLASSES** TUASON RACING SCHOOL Sony Ericsson **MMS PHONES** GOLD'S GYM

PROMO MECHANICS:

- The promo shall run from October 27, 2003 until February 29, 2004.
- The promo is open to all ADDICT MOBILE subscribers.
- Individuals who sign up with ADDICT MOBILE from October 27, 2003 until February 29, 2004 will automatically get a certain number of raffle entries depending upon the plan that they subscribed to (Plan 800=1 electronic raffle entry, Plan 1335 = 3, Plan 1995 = 6, Plan 2665 = 12, Plan 3500 = 24). Cut-off date to be eligible for bonus raffle entries given to new subscribers will be on December 21, 2003 at 11:59pm (for the first draw), and on February 19, 2004 at 11:59pm (for the second draw).
- Individuals under a corporate account in ADDICT MOBILE are also eligible to join. Winners who are under this account will have to clear with their respective company's policies governing such incidents.
- For every two (2) MMS transactions (downloading and/or forwarding of MMS), the subscriber automatically gets 1 electronic raffle coupon. The more MMS transactions, the more chances of winning.
- There will be two (2) Grand Draws:
  January 2, 2004.
    Cut-off for first draw: 11:59pm December 31, 2003.
  March 15, 2004.
    Cut off for second draw: 11:59pm February 29, 2004.
- Winners will be notified through registered mail and their names will be published in local broadsheets.
- All raffle entries shall be discarded after the 1st grand draw.
- Employees of SMART COMMUNICATIONS, INC., its advertising agencies and participating outlets including their relatives up to second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining this promo.
- Prizes are non-convertible to cash. Tuason Racing Scholarship is Transferable.
- A Participant can win the grand prize only once. If a name wins more than once, he gets the bigger prize. Individual can win as many times in the weekly draw.
- Redemption period shall be within 60 days from notification.
- Grand prizes can be claimed at 6799 SMART Tower, Ayala Ave., Makati City. Weekly prizes can be claimed at the SMART Wireless Centers specified in the registered notice.
- Winners must present billing statement, valid ID and registered notice.
- Prizes are Tax Free.

*Sony Ericsson Handsets do not come with a Plan.
*Rockwell Movie Tickets are valid for 90 days from date o
*Rockwell Movie Tickets and Gold's Gym 30-day Pas

Grand Draws:
- 1st Draw: January 2, 2004:
  (2 Mini Coopers/ 1 Ducati Superbike/45 Gold's Gym 30-day P/
  Ericsson Z-600's / 4 TRS Classes).

  2nd Draw: March 15, 2004:
  (2 Mini Coopers/ 1 Ducati Superbike/45 Gold's Gym 30-day P
  Ericsson Z-600's / 4 TRS Classes).

Weekly Draws (18):
  50 Power Plant Movie Tickets
  6 Gold's Gym 30-day Passes
  5 Addict Mobile Jackets
  5 Addict Mobile Bags
  10 Addict Mobile Shirts
  10 Addict Mobile Caps

- Weekly draw to be held every Friday, starting October 31, 2
  11th flr., 6799 SMART Tower, Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

For more info, text "INFO" to 700-ADDICT (233428).

Powered by SMART

For questions, comments or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, *888 using your SMART cellphone, the SMART Corporate Hotline at *888, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at addictmobile@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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1 - MONTH FREE
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GOLD'S GYM

MOVIE

POWER PLANT
CINEMA TICKETS

Actual unit may vary from photo.

ssue:
s are only for Metro Manila winners.

sses/ 2 Sony Ericsson T-610's and 2 Sony

sses/ 2 Sony Ericsson T-610's and 2 Sony

003 until February 27, 2004 at 4pm at the

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SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie 833-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 UNDERWORLD
3 BUGBOG SARADO
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 FREAKY FRIDAY
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
7 BELPHEGOR
8 THE RUNDOWN

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
5 PILYA
6 UTANG NG AMA
7 FREDDY VS. JASON
8 UNDERWORLD

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 BELPHEGOR
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 UNDERWORLD
6 BUGBOG SARADO
7 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
8 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7428005

1 RUNDOWN
2 UNDERWORLD
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 BUGBOG SARADO
5 MATCHSTICKMEN
6 UTANG NG AMA

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294675

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BELPHEGOR
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

SM BICUTAN
7763065

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 BELPHEGOR

SM CITY MARILAO

OPENS Nov. 28

SM STA. MESA
7149532 • 7161416

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 BUGBOG SARADO
5 UNDERWORLD
6 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
7 FREAKY FRIDAY
8 THE SUSPECT
9 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
10 BELPHEGOR

SM SOUTHMALL
8006988

1 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
2 FREAKY FRIDAY
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
5 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
6 BELPHEGOR
7 UTANG NG AMA
8 UNDERWORLD
9 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
10 BUGBOG SARADO

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1 BELPHEGOR
2 THE SUSPECT
3 FREAKY FRIDAY
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 UTANG NG AMA
7 THE RUNDOWN
8 UNDERWORLD
9 BUGBOG SARADO
10 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
11 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
12 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 MATCHSTICKMEN
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 THE MEDALLION

SM CITY LUCENA
(042) 7108897-99

1 FREAKY FRIDAY
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 THE MEDALLION
4 FREDDY VS. JASON

SM MEGAMALL
6331001 • 6339401

1 THE RUNDOWN
RESERVE-A-SEAT dial 6365800
2 FREAKY FRIDAY
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 "HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN MUST BE FILIPINO"
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
7 BELPHEGOR
8 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
9 UTANG NG AMA
10 UNDERWORLD
11 BUGBOG SARADO
12 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 BELPHEGOR
3 BUGBOG SARADO
4 UTANG NG AMA

SM CITY ILOILO
3205432

1 KISKISAN
2 RESERVED
3 FREDDY VS. JASON
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
7 RESERVED
8 UTANG NG AMA

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 FREAKY FRIDAY
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 THE SUSPECT
6 UNDERWORLD
7 UTANG NG AMA
8 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
9 BELPHEGOR
10 VISIBLE SECRET 2
11 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
12 BUGBOG SARADO

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
(088) 8592804

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
3 UTANG NG AMA
4 THE MEDALLION

SM CITY BAGUIO
(074) 4464595

OPENS Nov. 21

THE PODIUM CINEMA

18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City • 638 9761 - 65

1 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
10:10 FS/10:10 MF/12:00/2:00/4:00/6:00/8:00/9:25 LFS/10:00 LMF/11:25 END

2 THE RUNDOWN
11:40 FS/12:10 FS/2:20/4:30/6:40/8:50/10:35 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:45 END

For Seat Reservation, call 633 8975 • LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

Matinee P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday • Regular P120.00 - After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS @ Robinsons Malls

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Annual National
Consumer's Quality Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

DIAL-A-MOVIE FOR ALL BRANCHES 635-5555

Galleria
632-9115-16
687-0593

THX /All Digital

1 THE RUNDOWN 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30 THX
2 THE RUNDOWN 11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 10:00
3 MATCHSTICK MEN 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
4 UNDERWORLD 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
5 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER 11:25, 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50
6 FREAKY FRIDAY 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
7 BELPHEGOR 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
8 THE SUSPECT 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
9 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 6:40, 9:00
10 UTANG NG AMA 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

MATINEE PRICE: P100 THX cinema / P75 Ilovel cinemas
Mon.- Fri. / 10am- 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita
526-7185
536-7809 to 12

1 THE RUNDOWN - 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
2 UNDERWORLD - 11:15, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 7:55, 10:00
3 BELPHEGOR - 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40
4 UTANG NG AMA - 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
5 FREAKY FRIDAY - 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER - 10:55, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45
7 AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING 11:05, 12:55, 2:45, 4:35, 6:25, 8:15, 10:00

Metro East
Marcos hway
682-8193/99
682-8280

1 UNDERWORLD
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING
4 FREAKY FRIDAY
5 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
6 BELPHEGOR:CURSE OF THE MUMMY
7 UTANG NG AMA
8 BUGBOG SARADO

Novaliches
935-3229 / 31

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 FREAKY FRIDAY
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 UNDERWORLD
6 AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING
7 BELPHEGOR:CURSE OF THE MUMMY
8 BUGBOG SARADO

Star Mills (045)875-1027 (045)961-5270		Imus (046)471-8188 / 875-5850
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	1	THE RUNDOWN
BUGBOG SARADO	2	UNDERWORLD
MATCHSTICK MEN	3	BUGBOG SARADO
UTANG NG AMA	4	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
UNDERWORLD	5	UTANG NG AMA
THE RUNDOWN	6	BELPHEGOR

Bacolod (034)441-0458/59		Iloilo (033)336-8070 to 78
THE RUNDOWN	1	THE RUNDOWN
FREDDY VS. JASON	2	FREDDY VS. JASON
THE MEDALLION	3	AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING
FREDDY VS. JASON	4	UTANG NG AMA
AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING	5	KISKISAN
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	6	HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES

Sta. Rosa (049)837-0807		Lipa, Batangas
THE RUNDOWN	1	MATCHSTICK MEN
UTANG NG AMA	2	BUGBOG SARADO
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	3	UTANG NG AMA
UTANG NG AMA	4	SOON TO OPEN
BUGBOG SARADO	5	

Malabon
288-0985/2575

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BUGBOG SARADO
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 BELPHEGOR:CURSE OF THE MUMMY

SOON TO OPEN

DASMARINAS, CAVITE
CAINTA JUNCTION

MTRCB Rating: PG-13
NOW SHOWING
at Robinsons Movieworld Cinemas

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND•EX

AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING R18 12:40, 2:45, 4:50, 6:55, 9:00	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER R13 12:20, 2:20, 4:20, 6:20, 8:20, 10:20	FREAKY FRIDAY GP 11:45, 1:50, 3:55, 6:00, 8:05, 10:10
MATCHSTICKMEN PG13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00	SINBAD GP 11:20, 1:20, 3:20 THE SUSPECT R13 7:20, 9:40	THE RUNDOWN PG13 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

Hawkers Market
FOOD FESTIVAL

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
6PM ONWARDS

POWER PLANT MALL

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

"TWO THUMBS WAY UP"
Ebert & Roeper

"★★★★! ONE OF THE YEAR'S VERY BEST."
Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV

"A VERY VIVID COMIC THRILLER. IT'S A 21ST-CENTURY VERSION OF 'THE STING.'"
Glenn Kenny, PREMIERE MAGAZINE

"DEVIOUSLY CLEVER. A CAPER WITH A HIP SENSE OF HUMOR."
Jay Fielden, VOGUE MAGAZINE

"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES IN YEARS! VERY FUNNY AND RELENTLESSLY SUSPENSEFUL!"
Mark S. Allen, UPN-TV

"RIDLEY SCOTT HAS A WEALTH OF TRICKS UP HIS SLEEVE IN THIS TWISTY CAPER COMEDY."
Karen Durbin, ELLE MAGAZINE

NICOLAS CAGE SAM ROCKWELL ALISON LOHMAN

A RIDLEY SCOTT FILM

MATCHSTICK MEN

NOW SHOWING

SECOND WEEK!

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED

Every teenager's nightmare...turning into her mother.

JAMIE LEE CURTIS LINDSAY LOHAN

WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS

FREAKY FRIDAY

"'FREAKY FRIDAY' IS FANTASTICALLY FUNNY!"

"HOT! JAMIE LEE CURTIS AND LINDSAY LOHAN COULDN'T BE BETTER!"
Leonard Maltin HOT TICKET

"A FEEL-GOOD, FLAT-OUT-FUNNY ROMP FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!"

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HALO FRIENDLIES • THE DONNAS
LINDSAY LOHAN • NULLS
AND
FORTY FOOT ECHO
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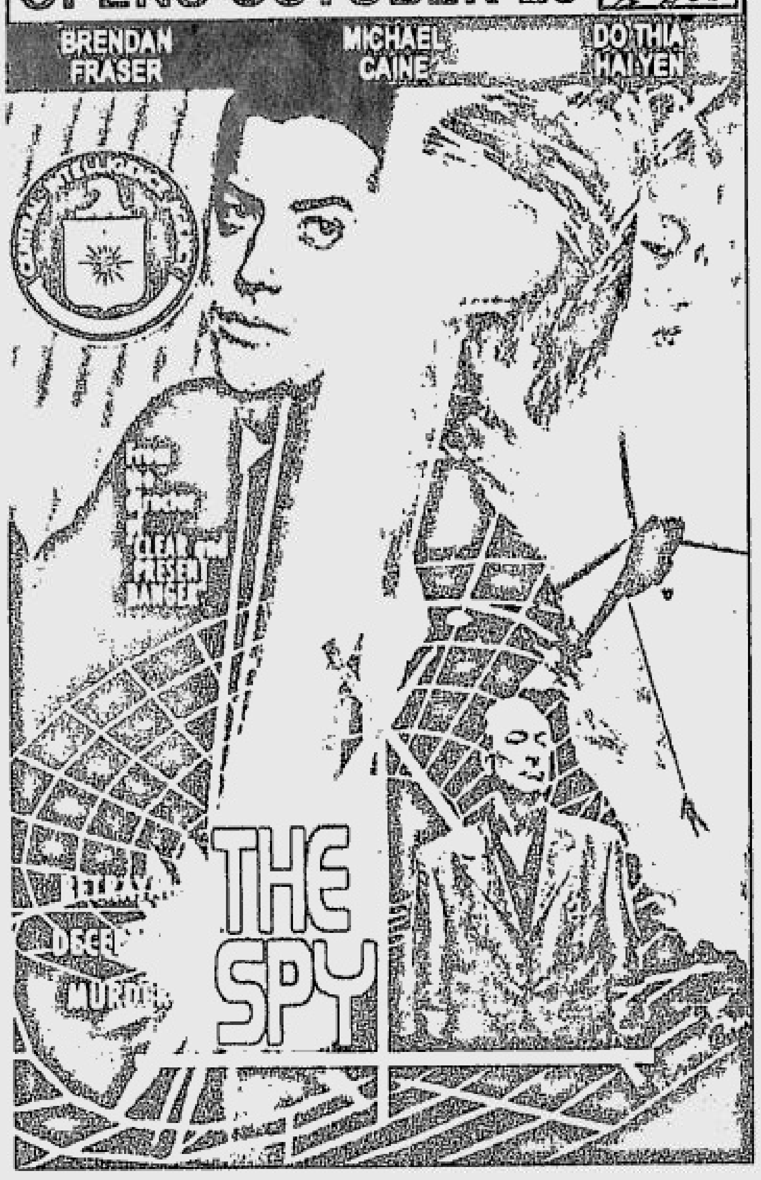
THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY · LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	BUGBOG SARADO
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	UTANG NG AMA
B	RUNDOWN
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BUGBOG SARADO
CINEMA-2	FREAKY FRIDAY
CINEMA-3	MATCHSTICK MEN
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SUSPECT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
CINEMA-6	KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
CINEMA-7	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
CINEMA-8	KIKAY
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	RUNDOWN
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUNDOWN
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	BELPHEGOR
CINEMA-12	UNDERWORLD
CINEMA-14	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
CINEMA-15	UTANG NA AMA
LORES	
CINEMA-2	[illegible]
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PINAS)	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
CINEMA-1	UTANG NG AMA
CINEMA-2	BUGBOG SARADO
CINEMA-4	ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA



THE BEST ASIAN HORROR FILM!

YOUR CELLPHONES!
THE PHONE
Ahn Byoung Ki
OPENS OCTOBER 29, 2003

TWO LOVE STORIES IN ONE MOVIE THAT WILL MAKE YOU FALL IN-LOVE LIKE IT'S THE FIRST TIME!!!

John Lloyd Cruz Bea Alonzo John Prats Heart Evangelista

MY FIRST ROMANCE

Directed by: John-D Lazatin • Don Cuaresma

STAR CINEMA PRODUCTIONS INC.

Closeup · Johnson's Pure Essentials mini face powder · Kotex · Hawk · URBAN · Outland

Text FIRST to 2366. Available to Smart and Talk 'N Text subscribers only

OPENS ON OCTOBER 29, 2003

ALL DIGITAL SOUND AYALA CINEMAS PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 BELPHEGOR	HEAD OF THE STATE	ArtFilm SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL	THX GUARANTEED SEATS HEAD OF THE STATE 12:25, 2:35 4:45 6:55 9:05 11:15	THX THE RUNDOWN
2 THE RUNDOWN	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING	THE RUNDOWN 11:45 2:00 4:15 6:30 8:45	THX GUARANTEED SEATS THE RUNDOWN 12:45, 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45 12:00	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	THX GUARANTEED SEATS MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER [illegible] 8:00 10:00 12:00	REGINE VELASQUEZ NOV. 14 15, 21, 22 28 29 9PM	GUARANTEED SEATS FREAKY FRIDAY 1:25 3:20 5:15 7:10 9:05 11:00	FREAKY FRIDAY
4 HEAD OF THE STATE	MATCHSTICK MEN		GUARANTEED SEATS AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING [illegible]	BELPHEGOR
	UNDERWORLD		GUARANTEED SEATS MY BOSS'S DAUDHTER 2:00, 4:30 6:00 8:00 10:00 12:00	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
	THE RUNDOWN			
	FREAKY FRIDAY			

For sreening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 and send to 2333. Or log on to www.sureseats,com for web reservations.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1	UNDERWORLD
2	THE RUNDOWN
3	AMERICAN PIE
4	FREAKY FRIDAY
5	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
6	THE RUNDOWN
7	AMERICAN PCYCHO
8	UTANG NG AMA
9	THE SUSPECT
10	BELPHEGOR

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX	RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA 1 2 & 3
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 833.3274

1	UTANG NG AMA
2	THE RUNDOWN
3	KIKAY

Starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1	UTANG NG AMA
2	BELPHEGOR
3	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 DOLBY DIGITAL	THE RUNDOWN
5	BUGBOG SARADO

METROPOLIS Star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

1	BUGBOG SARADO
2	KIKAY
3	UTANG NG AMA
4	THE RUNDOWN
5	BOSS'S DAUGHTER
6	BELPHEGOR

Star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel 873.5004

1	THE RUNDOWN
2	UTANG NG AMA

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 893-4225, 892-2503

CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
2	FREDDY VS. JASON

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC
tel 930.9515

1	
2	
3	

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) TEL. 776-74-21

1	THE RUNDOWN
2	UTANG NG AMA
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	UTANG NG AMA
6	BUGBOG SARADO
7	BELPHEGOR
8	THE RUNDOWN
9	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364-3781

1	KUNG AKO NALANG SANA
2	BUGBOG SARADO
3	UTANG NG AMA
4	THE RUNDOWN
5	BELPHEGOR
6	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
7	THE RUNDOWN
8	KIKAY
9	KISKISAN

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

1	BUGBOG SARADO
2	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3	UTANG NG AMA
4	THE RUNDOWN
5	KIKAY

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3	KIKAY
4	UTANG NG AMA
5	BUGBOG SARADO

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2	UTANG NG AMA

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3	UNDERWORLD
4	RUNDOWN
5	BELPHEGOR
6	THE SUSPECT
7	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

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2	BUGBOG SARADO
3	THE RUNDOWN

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2	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3	THE RUNDOWN
4	HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES

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2	THE RUNDOWN
3	MATCHSTICK MEN
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3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Lianas Cinema
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1	BUGBOG SARADO
2	KIKAY
3	UTANG NG AMA
4	THE RUNDOWN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1	THE RUNDOWN
2	UTANG NG AMA
3	HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES
4	BUGBOG SARADO
5	TREK

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	UTANG NG AMA
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3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1	THE RUNDOWN
2	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3	UTANG NG AMA

Mega Center Mall
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1	AMERICAN PIE THE WODING
2	UTANG NG AMA
3	BUGBOG SARADO
4	THE SUSPECT

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2	RESERVE

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2	UTANG NG AMA
3	RESERVE

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2	MATCHSTICK MEN
3	THE RUNDOWN
4	UTANG NG AMA

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 TO 03

1	THE RUNDOWN
2	THE SUSPECT
3	MATCHSTICK MEN
4	HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES

Cine Nepo Mall
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2	THE SUSPECT
3	THE RUNDOWN
4	MATCHSTICK MEN

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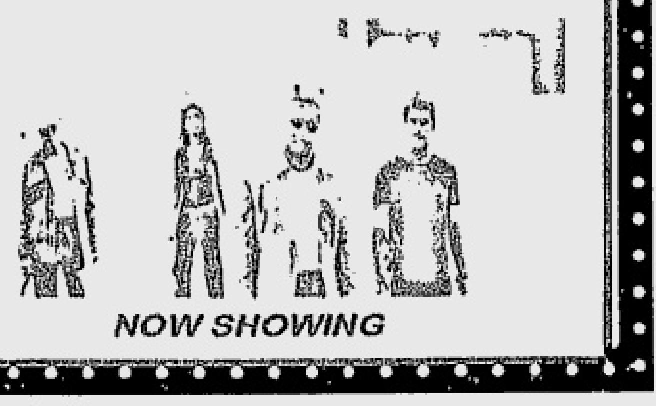

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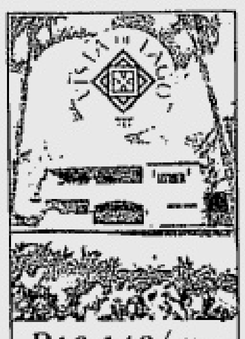

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DIAJADE PAWNSHOP
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METRO MANILA
Will have its auction sale on November 07, 2003. All unredeemed pledges during the month of June 01-30, 2003. Diajade Main - 8:30am Diajade Br.II-11:30am Sons of J. Lanuza-Auctioner

Nuestra-Damus Pawnshop
Makati City
Auction Sale on November 06, 2003 all unredeemed pledges during the month of June 01-30, 2003. Nuestra Br. II Pio-9:30am; Nuestra Br. I 10:30am; DamusPawnshop-12:30pm; Nuestra Main -1:30pm; Nuestra Br. IX - 3:00pm. Sons of J. Lanuza-Auctioneer

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late CEZAR LIMJOCO was extrajudicially settled to the heirs, per doc 380; Page 76, Book CIXII Series of 2003 before Notary Public Wilfredo O. Abiog of Sn Fdo Pamp.
(PDI-Oct. 18,25 & Nov. 1, 2003)

SALE W/ ASSUMPTION OF MORTGAGE OF PARCEL OF LAND WITH IMPROVEMENT AT SORO-SORO, BINAN, LAGUNA CONTAINING 180SQ METERS UNDER TCT NO. T-83677, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, CALAMBA, LAGUNA. EXECUTED BY DOMINADOR U. VILORIA, MARRIED TO ESTRELLITA B. VILORIA, IN FAVOR OF FLORANTE P. JOMOC, MARRIED TO CONCEPCION M. JOMOC, DOC. NO. 48; PAGE NO. 11; BOOK NO. V; SERIES OF 1982 NOTARIAL REGISTER OF FRANCISCO JOSE, JR NOTARY PUBLIC MAKATI. MORTGAGE SETTLED/PAID. INQUIRIES CONTACT ROSET ARANDIA 049-5625920 SSS SAN PABLO CITY
PDI-Oct. 25, Nov. 1 & 8, 2003

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that the certificate of full payment of SPPI#11364 issued to JOSE PAGSINOHIN was lost. If no contest received new certificate will be issued.
(PDI-October 25, 2003)

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FEMALE CAREGIVERS

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Dr. Charissa L. Alisuag
135 Malaya
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Malanday, Marikina
Tel. No. 941-7578

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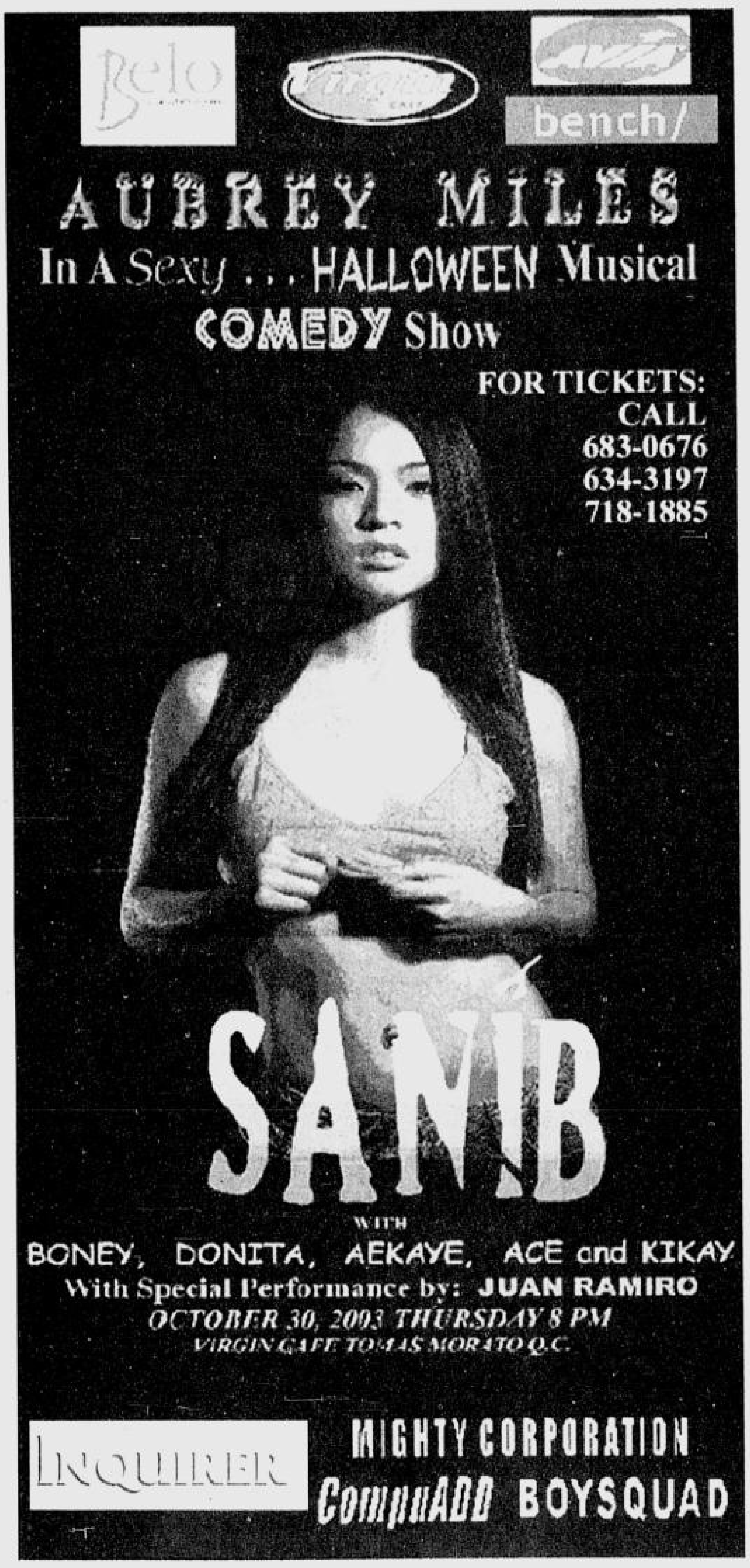
- ☐ Male, 30-40 years old
- ☐ Chemical Engineering or BS Chemistry Graduate
- ☐ 5 years experience in making Rotogravure Ink

PERSONNEL HEAD
- ☐ Female, 28-35 years old
- ☐ AB/BS Psychology Behavioral Science Graduate
- ☐ 3 years experience as Personnel Head

PRODUCTION DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT (RIGID PLASTIC)
- ☐ Male, 28-35 years old
- ☐ Advertising/Industrial Arts Graduate
- ☐ 3 years experience in product design & development of Rigid Plastic

Applicants may apply personally or send resumé and 1x1 picture to:

OMNIPACK INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION
Lots 2&3 Deparo Road, Bagumbong, Caloocan City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Birthday Concert
DISCOVERY
YSA
October 30, 2003
Music Museum 9:00 P.M.
92.3
WAVE 89.1
MAGIC 89.9

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ATTENTION ALL SUN CELLULAR PREPAID SUBSCRIBERS

Starting on November 1, 2003 Sun Cellular shall implement a new FREE TEXT Scheme for its prepaid subscribers. Under the new scheme, the value of the prepaid card denomination loaded to your account shall determine the number of your FREE TEXT allowance. Refer to the table below for the number of FREE TEXT you can avail of under the new scheme:

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
₱ 50.00	7 days	10
₱ 150.00	30 days	30
₱ 300.00	60 days	70
₱ 500.00	60 days	110

- This new scheme is applicable whether you avail of call cards or electronic reloads.
- **FREE TEXT message allowance applies to messages sent to Sun and all other local cellular networks.**
- Charging for local text messages starts once you consume the FREE TEXT allowance.
- All load credits and FREE TEXT allowance unused as of November 1, 2003 will still be honored but all subsequent reloads shall be subject to the new FREE TEXT Scheme.
- Taxes such as the Foreign Currency Adjustments (FCA) and Value Added Taxes (VAT) are already included.

All previous information/condition about the FREE TEXT found on SIM Packs and Call Cards that are inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby superceded.

Sun Cellular Prepaid is committed to providing you with quality service and best value for your money.

We aim to deliver beyond your expectations. That's why we are continuously on the lookout for breakthrough products and services. Because in every decision we make, your needs and satisfaction are always in mind.

Sun Cellular – setting a new standard in prepaid!

sun CELLULAR PREPAID

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City

Invitation for Bids

Date: October 20, 2003
ICB No.: SEMP2-02-2003-TX
Invitation for Bids No.: 2003-02-TX

1. The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), toward the cost of the Second Social Expenditure Management Project (SEMP 2), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the contract for Procurement of Printing only and Delivery of Textbooks (TXs) and Teacher's Manuals (TMs).

2. The Department of Education (DepED) now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the printing only from camera-ready-copy and delivery of the following:

   1,084,468 copies of Textbooks and 30,282 copies of Teacher's Manuals for high school Science and Technology IV
   [Textbook = 456 pages; Teacher's manual = 272 pages]
   (Reprinting of Science textbooks and teacher's manuals developed by the National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education Development [NISMED] with copyright owned by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines to be delivered to public high schools in the Philippines.)

   Estimated Printing and Delivery Completion Period: 150 days. Indicative Printing and Delivery Dates: January to June, 2004.

3. A margin of preference shall be granted to TXs and TMs manufactured in Purchaser's country for purposes of bid price comparison only.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from DepED and inspect the bidding documents at Room 112-A, Mabini Building, DepED Complex, Pasig City, Philippines, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. starting October 29, 2003. Information is also available at http://www.deped.gov.ph or www.procurementservice.org

5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon submission of a written application to the address given on the next page and payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of Php3,000 or US$55.00. The method of payment will be cash, cashier's check, manager's check or certified check. The Bidding Documents will be sent by mail. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.

6. A pre-bid conference shall be conducted on November 12, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address indicated below, at or before 10:00 a.m. on December 15, 2003. A bid security shall be required equivalent to not less than 2.5% of the bid price, in Philippine peso or in any freely convertible currency or eligible countries. Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address, date and time indicated in the Bidding Documents.

   1. **Address for Inspecting Bidding Documents**
      Name of Office: Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
      Street Address: Meralco Avenue
      Floor/Room number: Ground Floor, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex
      City: Pasig City
      Postal Code: 1604
      Country: Philippines
      Telephone number: (632) 636-6542; (632) 633-9342
      Facsimile number: (632) 635-3782

   2. **Address for submitting written application to request for Bidding Documents**
      Name of Office: Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
      Street Address: Meralco Avenue
      Floor/Room number: Ground Floor, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex
      City: Pasig City
      Postal Code: 1604
      Country: Philippines
      Telephone number: (632) 636-6542; (632) 633-9342
      Facsimile number: (632) 635-3782

   3. **Address for submitting and opening of bids**
      Name of Office: Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
      Street Address: Meralco Avenue
      Floor/Room number: Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex
      City: Pasig City
      Postal Code: 1604
      Country: Philippines
      Telephone number: (632) 636-6542; (632) 633-9342
      Facsimile number: (632) 635-3782

(Sgd.) JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ
Undersecretary and Chairperson, Bids and
Awards Committee

(PDI–Oct. 25 & Nov. 1, 2003)

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

JOB VACANCIES

MANILA CAMPUS

Position	Qualification
CHAIR MARINE ENGINEERING DEPT.	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree required or with at least 15 units in Master's and with appropriate Professional License, with shipboard experience, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate.
CHAIR ARCHITECTURE DEPT.	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree required for at least Bachelor's Degree, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate.
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling or Psychology, with at least one (1) year related work experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, female.
FACULTY MEMBERS Architecture Civil Engineering Computer Science Mathematics English Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time/part time.

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply personally with their resume, ID picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents at the:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila
Telephone No. 734-36-31

QUEZON CITY CAMPUS

Position	Qualification
HEAD OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Psychology or Guidance and Counseling, with at least five (5) years satisfactory teaching experience in the tertiary level and at least three (3) years of satisfactory administrative or managerial experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate, female.
CHAIR PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Physical Education, with an appropriate Professional License, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate.
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling or Psychology, preferably with one (1) year related work experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate, female.
FACULTY MEMBERS Accountancy Computer Engineering Electrical Engineering Electronics & Communications Engineering Marine Engineering Filipino Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time/part time.
LIBRARIAN	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science, with appropriate Professional License, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate.
CIVIC WELFARE TRAINING SERVICE FACILITATOR	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Guidance and Counseling or Social Work, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate female.
ACCOUNTING CLERK	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, preferably with work experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate, female.
DRIVER	High School graduate with an active driver's license, knowledgeable in troubleshooting and car maintenance, with three (3) years work experience as driver (experience as a family driver is an advantage), of good moral character.

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply personally with their resume, ID picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents at the:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone No. 913-5852

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KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN
PANGASIWAAN SA PATALAAN NG LUPAIN
(LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY)
East Avenue cor. NIA Road
Quezon City

22 October 2003

NOTICE

The Land Registration Authority (LRA) invites all interested suppliers of office supplies and equipment, printers of official forms as well as contractors engaged in the repair of office equipment and motor vehicles to participate in the accreditation to be conducted by the LRA Bids and Awards Committee on Procurement of Supplies, Materials, Equipment and Services (BAC-PSMES).

Interested suppliers/printers/contractors or their authorized representatives shall submit a certified true copy of the following accreditation requirements (original copy to be presented for authentication):

a.) G-EPS registration certificate;
b.) DTI/SEC registration certificate;
c.) Mayor's permit;
d.) Taxpayer's Identification Number;
e.) Sworn statement from the prospective supplier/printer/contractor that it is not "blacklisted" or barred from bidding by any government agency, office or corporation; and
f.) List of clients for the past two (2) years.

Submission of accreditation requirements shall be on November 07 to December 05, 2003 at BAC-PSMES Secretariat, Lower Ground Floor, LRA Building, East Avenue corner NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

BAC-PSMES shall issue, after due verification, a certification of official registration to suppliers, printers and contractors who shall properly comply with and submit all accreditation requirements.

(Sgd.) **RONALD A. ORTILE**
Chairperson
BAC-PSMES

(PDI–Oct. 25, 30 & Nov. 6, 2003)

Trans Co

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
South Luzon Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

AD NO. TRANSCO 2003-011A

The National Transmission Corporation, South Luzon O&M Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) wishes to invite interested parties who are qualified to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 19, 2003; 10:00 AM

SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	APPROVED BUDGET
A1	6 SETS	BATTERY IMPEDANCE TEST EQUIPMENT	3SLR-03-066	P 6,400,000.00
	4 SETS	BATTERY GROUND FAULT LOCATOR		3,000,000.00

DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 19, 2003; 2:00 PM

SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	APPROVED BUDGET
A2	406 PCS	POLE, WOOD, CREOSOTED OR CCA-A (Various Sizes)	3SLR-03-047	P 12,022,000.00
A3	35 PCS	WOODPOLES, CCA-C TREATED	QUE-03-304	735,000.00

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference will be held for the following bidding schedules on:
1) A1 – November 07, 2003; 10.00 AM at SLT Bidding Room
2) A2 and A3 – November 07, 2003; 2:00 PM at SLT Bidding Room

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLT, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 per schedule starting **October 28, 2003.** No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the SLT Bidding Room, Transco-SL O&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until the specified date and time of bidding above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "R.A. 9184".

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, Irrevocable Letter of Credit, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by GSIS or a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of the BAC's action.

G.R. LISTANO
CHAIRMAN-BAC
SL O & M

(PDI–Oct. 25, 2003)

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PRESSING/SHEARING/SAWING - (2) TTM CT340 Vertical Auto Panel Saws; LISONG 24" Auto Edge Beveller; (2) AMADA TP110, (7) AMADA TP80, AMADA "Torc Pac" 25T, BLISS 60T Open Fronted Power Presses
PHOTO/MASK EQUIPMENT - BARCO CRESENT 40 (1999), MACDONALD DETTWILER Fire 950 Laser Plotters; MTH-30 Dry Film Laminator (2000); CH CCD Drilling m/c (1999); DUPONT Film Processor (1999); DAINIPPON LD 220-0T Film Processor; TECHNILITH 6000 Dry Film Developer; (3) ORC-680 GW (2001),(4) PARKER Circuit 5 Exposure m/c's; (4) ORC HMW 201B-5K-2 Double Sided Simultaneous Exposure m/c's (1999); (2) DUPONT HRL 24 Hot Roll Laminators; NATGRAPH Screen Drying Cabinet; (10) TA CHEN TC 6080 GL, (3) TA CHEN TC 5070 Auto Flat Screen Printers, (2) CH Auto Squeeze Polishers; (6) Artwork Cabs; (10) Light Tables
MULTILAYER - CEDAL 'ADARA' Single Daylight Hyd. Laminating Press (1996); CEDAL Multilayer Lay-up m/c w/ Copper Foil Rack; (3) BOLZONI 500 Kg Lift Trolleys; CEDAL 5 RBN Registration Bonder (2000); ROSENTHAL WA-S-5-HUB Sheeter (1998); AVIO MCW 650 Super Welder (1998); UHT D2-5 Micro Cell CCD Drill (1998)
LABORATORY/INSPECTION - MORIKAWA DX 2A X-Ray Drill (2001); LLOYD DOLE Trackscan 4000 Auto Optical Inspection w/ MVS 1000 Verification Station; MITUTUYO 2-Axis Coordinate Measuring m/c; (3) UTRON 8000 HV III, (2) UTRON 8000 HV, (6) UTRON 6460H, TTi, PCB Testers; NIKON MM40 Microscope w/ Camera; ALPHA 600 SMD Ionic Contamination Tester; MET ONE Laser Particle Counter; CMI XRX Coating Thickness Tester; CMI MRX Surface Measurement Tester; GERVER GP2 Specimen Puncher; GLENBROOK X-Ray; JENWAY 6405 UV Spectrophotometer; Asstd. Pin Gauge Sets; Micrometers; Microscopes; Granite Surface Plates, etc.
WET PROCESS LINES - (2) IS PUMIFLEX SHD/A 24 (to 99); (2) IS PUMIFLEX 2000 Scrubber (to 99); (2) IS SCRUBBEX 4B SHD Scrubber/Deburrer; (2) MARSECO FRPCS 24 Flux Removal /Post Clean; MARSECO FRDS 24; (2) TTM Post Clean Brushing; (2) TTM Hot Air Solder Levelling; (2) TTM Pre-HAL/Post- HAL Cleaning (1998); PAL Desmear/PTH Plating; PAL Compal PTH Plating; (2) OMIG, (2) PAL Copper Panel Plating Lines; MICROPLATE MP 80 Gold Tab Plating; PAL Black Oxide Plating; TTM Liquid Photo Solder Mask Developing w/ Acid Pre-Cleaner (2000); TTM Dry Film Developing (2000); TTM Develop Etch/Strip (2001); (2) TTM Strip Etch Strip (1999) TTM Fluxing Line
MACHINE TOOLS - CHEVALIER FSG 1640 AD H.D.; AMADA HARIG SG 35m Surface Grinders; (5) Asstd. Bench Drills
PLANT SERVICES - (2) CAT 500 kw Gensets; (3) MITSUBISHI 400A Chillers (2001); (60) Asstd. Air Conditioners; (5) LIANG CHI Cooling Towers; (4) I.R. SSR-EP75, (2) I.R. SSR-EP50 Packaged Air Compressors; (4) I.R. DXP 425, I.R. RS 106, DOMNICK HUNTER DXS 108 Air Dryers; CULLIGAN DI Water Treatment System; (2) TCM FD25/30 Forklift Trucks; Asstd. Transformers; Voltage Regulators; Switchgear, etc.
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MISCELLANEOUS - (3) Class 10000 Demountable Clean Rooms; (4) Air Showers; (10) Pass Boxes; (2) Environmental Controllers;; (2) QUALIPAK Packaging m/c's; HEDINAIR Drying Oven; (15) C-SUN SMO 7A Ovens; A Large Qty. Of Spare Parts/Consumables, etc.

Sale Date: Tuesday 11th - Wednesday 12th November 2003 – 10:30am
(Live Webcast - Wednesday 12th November only from 12 noon)
On View: Friday 7th, Saturday 8th & Monday 10th November 2003
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Department of Health
Bureau of International Health Cooperation
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila

October 22, 2003

NOTICE

The Department of Health under the Early Childhood Development Project-Department of Health (ECDP-DOH) Component is in need of consultant (individual) to provide technical assistance in the implementation of the Project's Food Fortification sub-component:

1. Legislation and Law Enforcement Advisor (1)

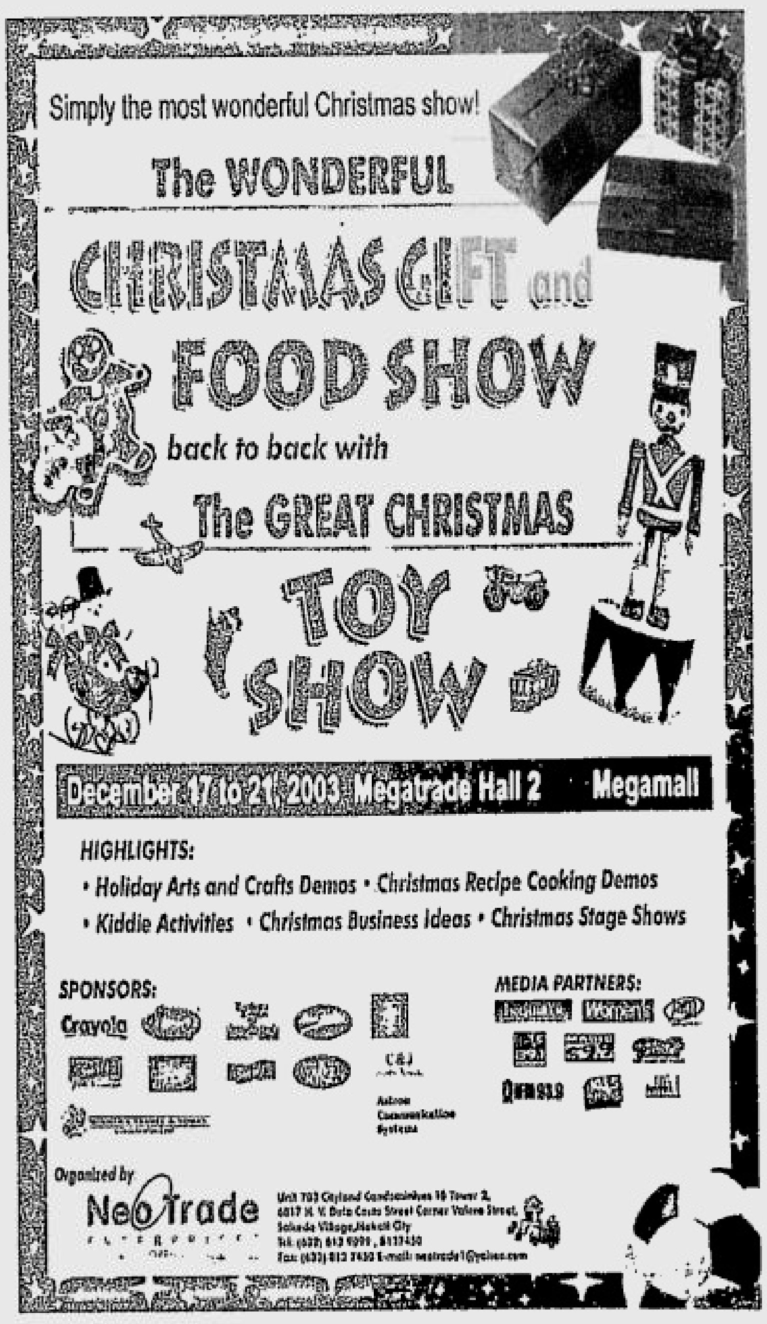
Interested individuals may get a copy of the Terms of Reference from the Department of Health-Early Childhood Development Project, Ground Floor, Bldg. 3, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila. Letters of interest with curriculum vitae and salary history must be submitted on or before **November 7, 2003** to the undersigned at the address below:

Bureau of International Health Cooperation
Department of Health
G/F Building 3, San Lazaro Compound
Rizal Ave., Sta Cruz, Manila

Should there be further inquiries, you may contact Ms. Cecilia C. Hernandez, Executive Assistant, Early Childhood Development Project at (02) 338-6516 and 743-8301 loc. 1343.

(Sgd.) **MA. VIRGINIA GUZMAN-ALA, MD, MPH**
Officer-in-Charge

Inquirer-Oct.25 & 26, 2003



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JUANITA BARIN CARRILLO

OF LUBAO, PAMPANGA AND CALIFORNIA, USA
wife of the late Engr. Abelardo B. Carrillo

peacefully joined her Creator on October 20, 2003
at the age of 96.

Her loving children **ABELARDO JR. (DONG), MARIANO (NONONG), ELEANORE (GIRLIE), EDUVIGIS (BABY), ELVIRA (VIRA),** and **ARTURO (ART)**; sons-in-law **DOMINIC MUZSNAI, LORETO MENDOZA** and **MAMERTO PALAGANAS** (†); daughters-in-law **CONSUELO CASIÑO, NARCISA MAGAT** and **AIDA IRLANDA**; sisters, brother, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nephews, nieces, grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be after the Loyola Memorial Chapel 9:00 AM mass on Tuesday, October 28, 2003 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever believes in Me will never die."

John 11:25-26

GIBSON CYRUS C. TAN

Peacefully joined the Lord
on October 21, 2003 at the age of 22.

His bereaved parents **AMADO & ESTELA**; brother **CHESTER**; sister **EILIS**; and all relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, October 26, 2003 at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 7:30 a.m. Mass.

VICENTE PABLO S. NEPOMUCENO, DDM

Joined his Creator at the age of 42.

His beloved parents **Juanito** and **Florencia Nepomuceno**; brothers **Al, Abbie, Bobbit**; and sister **Lia**; brother-in-law **Paul**; sisters-in-law **Me Anne, Judy** and **Phine**; nephews **Juancho, Jasper** and **Julio**; nieces **Angel, Jerica, Catherine, Amelia, Julie Ann, Abigail** and **Martha**; friends and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church.

Interment will be announced later.

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Congressman, 1st District of Pangasinan (1957 – 1971)

Peacefully joined our Lord on Thursday,
October 23, 2003 at the age of 83.

His loving wife, **Teresita**
Children and in-laws, **Marlie** and **Titus**, **Louie** and **Grace**,
Victor and **Jamie**, **Celine** (†), **Mina** and **Dan**, **Roby**,
Joey, **Pia** and **Junie**, and **Viktoria**
Grandchildren, **Chris**, **Kathy**, **Trisha**, **Dustin**, **Kayla**,
Apa, **Bea**, **Tisha**, **Nani**, **Joey**, **Gabe**, **Ethan** and **Miggy**,
Brothers, sister and in-laws, relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Sta. Maria de la Strada Parish Church, Katipunan Ave., Quezon City and will be transferred on Tuesday, October 28, 2003, 4:00 a.m. to the Provincial Capitol of Pangasinan.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 30, 2003 at Himlayang Pilipino, Pasong Tamo, Tandang Sora, Quezon City after the 10:00 a.m. mass at the Sta. Maria de la Strada Parish Church.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

MIROPE C. REYES

who died on October 10, 2003

wish to express our gratitude to all of you who offered prayers, kept vigil with us and in many immeasurable ways condoled with us during our bereavement.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Matthew 10:39

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Queensland Motorways Limited (QML) (Brisbane, Queensland) and Ausphil Tollway Corporations (ATC) recently signed in Australia a A$3.8M Supply, Installation and Commissioning Agreement for the Fixed Operating Equipment of the MWSS – La Mesa Parkway Toll Road Project. Signing the MOA are, seated left to right: Mr. Ricardo Penson (Managing Director, Aspen International Pty. Ltd.), Mr. Erik Finger (Chairman of the Board of Directors, Queensland Motorways Limited), Mr. Philip Ella Juico (President/CEO, Ausphil Tollways Corporation), Mr. Steve Bredhauer (Queensland Minister for Transport and Main Roads). The MOA also included a A$1M equity infusion by QML equivalent to 11.3% of the shares of ATC. Project commencement is projected to start before the middle of 2004.

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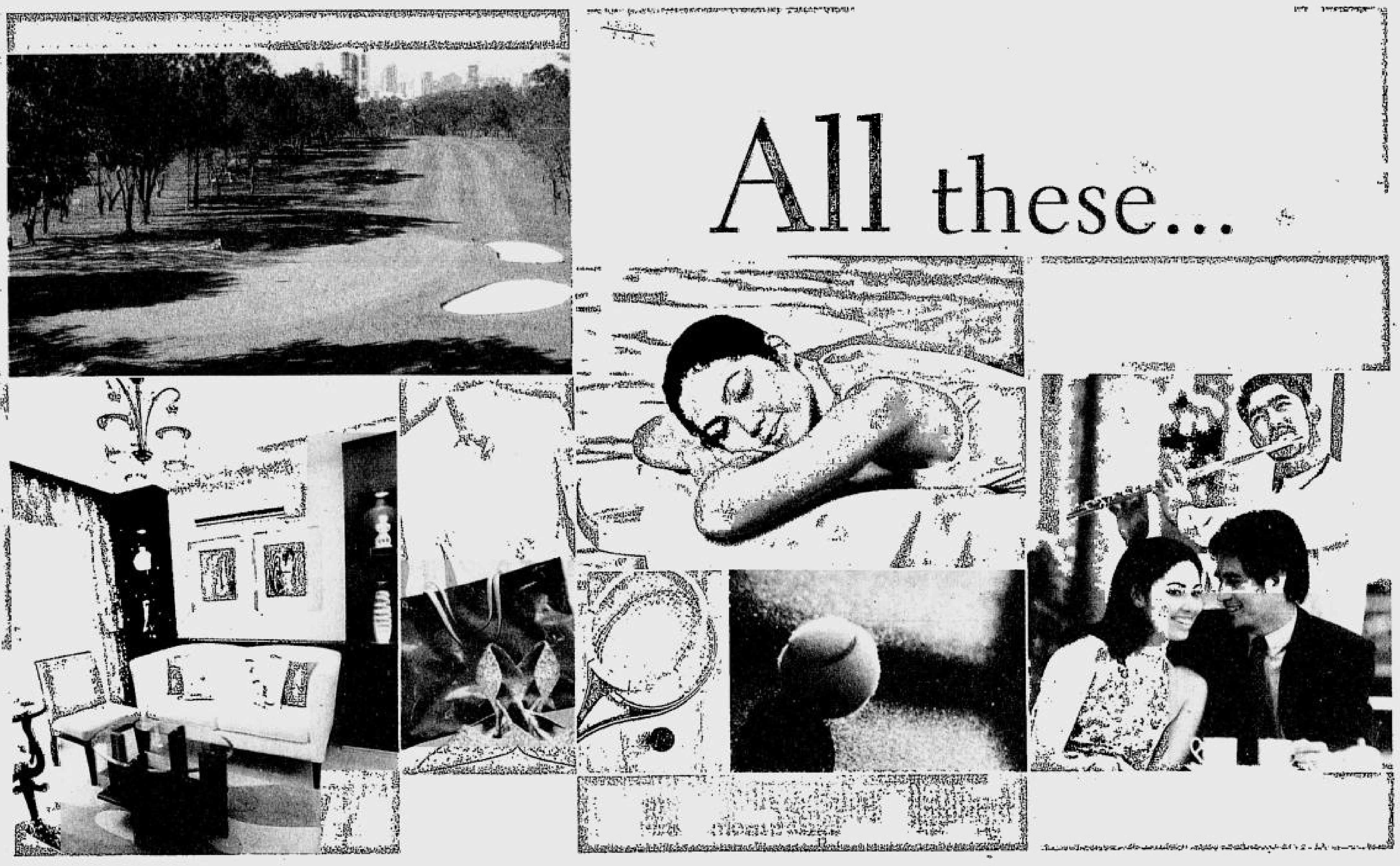

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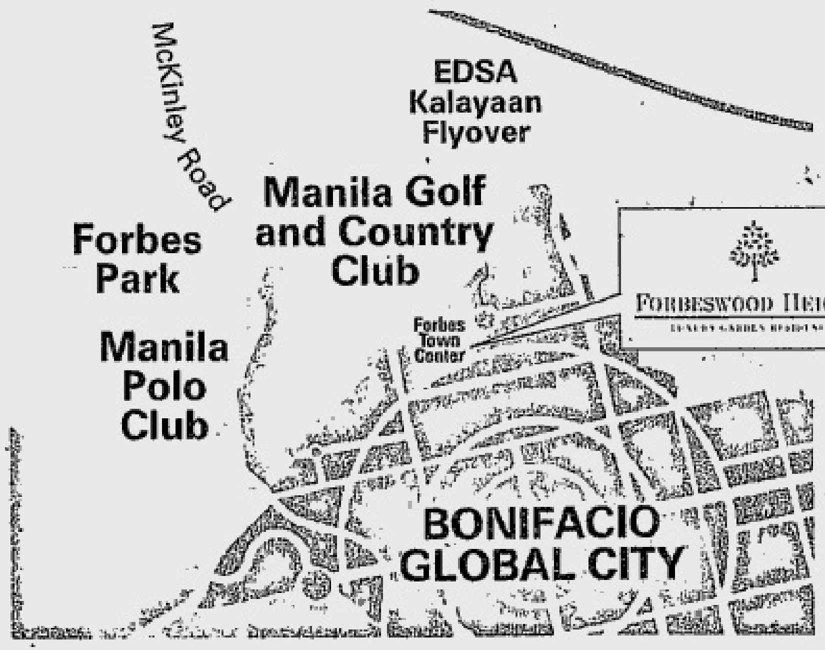
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SATURDAY Special
Editor Nestor U. Torre

Sadder but wiser, Gwyneth is back

PALTROW (left) with her mother, Blythe Danner, her co-star in her new film, "Sylvia."

REUTERS

By Peter Graff

LONDON—Gwyneth Paltrow is back.

The star of "Shakespeare in Love" and the upcoming literary drama, "Sylvia," confesses she had lost the joy of acting after a decade in the celebrity spotlight.

But her father's death, a stint on the London stage and her most challenging film role yet, as doomed poet Sylvia Plath, have brought a sadder, wiser Gwyneth back to the screen.

Tormented turn

Expect her to appear in fewer films in the future, but in more challenging roles, like her tormented turn as Plath, she said in an interview.

"I spent my 20s just working back to back to back. I don't even know how many films I did: I think, close to 30 in 10 years," the 31-year-old actress said.

"Then I took a year off when I was 29, and I sort of lost the joy. I lost the thread of why I was doing it," she said.

"The whole 'celebrity' part of it put a bad taste in my mouth, all the time," said the former girlfriend of Brad Pitt and Ben Affleck, currently hounded by tabloids for her relationship with Coldplay rock star Chris Martin.

Literary icon

It took a role like that of Plath, who killed herself in 1963 and posthumously became a literary icon, to remind Paltrow "why I became an actor in the first place." "I think that the experience of playing her changed me. It was so difficult and harrowing, but I got so much back from it, that I thought: I really don't want to waste my time doing things that are mediocre."

It's not as though Paltrow has spent the last decade zooming around the galaxy blasting aliens, but does anybody remember her in the critically-panned stewardess comedy, "View From the Top"? "I'd rather have two lines doing something really special than make a ton of money blowing things up," she said.

Hint of perfume

"Grace" is the word that seems to float around Paltrow like a hint of perfume. As she extends a slender movie star's hand to shake a reporter's, she is wearing a sleeveless top and chunky bracelet that make her arm look even longer and more elegant.

Her grace comes less from her flawless cheekbones than from an almost mystifying, artless self-confidence, the more stunning for the occasional glimpse of human fallibility that she uses to devastating effect in "Sylvia."

She plays Plath—who is tormented by depression, and kills herself after her marriage to poet Ted Hughes falls apart—as a brilliant poet, heroic lover and effortless mother, the equal of her genius husband, but not quite equal to the inner terror that causes her to tape up the windows and turn on the gas stove.

The poet Sylvia Plath was in her early 20s when she came to Britain from America, and was not intimidated by the shining intellects and ferocious egos of the English literary scene.

It's hard to imagine anyone better suited to the part than Paltrow, who came to England at the same age to take on the role of Emma in the film of the Jane Austen classic, accent and all.

Uncanny

Paltrow is aware how uncanny such self assurance must appear to ordinary mortals.

"When I think about that now, I think: 'My God, why wasn't I petrified? I was 22 and I just came over and did 'Emma.' I've always been brave in the past about coming over here and working and trying things. Sylvia had a lot of that bravery too."

Parents Bruce Paltrow and Blythe Danner raised Gwyneth to assume she could "do anything," she says. Danner plays Plath's mother in the film, in haunting scenes you may well see on the highlights reel at Oscar time.

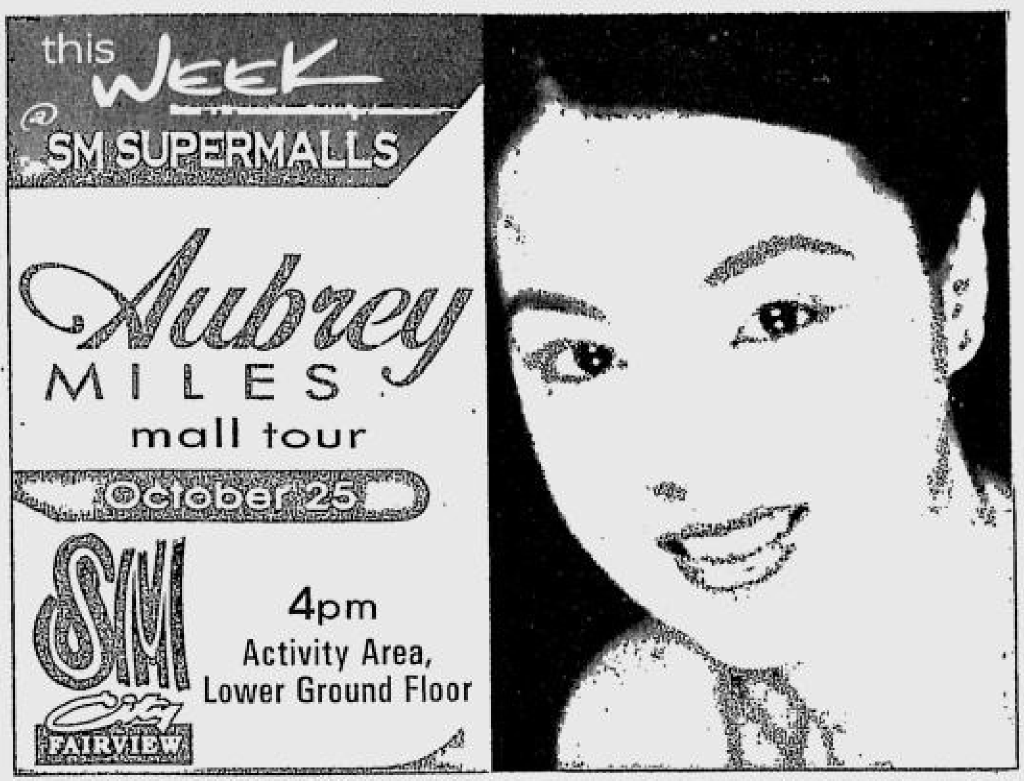
But it was Bruce Paltrow's death from cancer a year ago that Gwyneth says gave her the sadness to play Plath.

"I was pretty decimated emotionally at the beginning of the film and throughout the filming. And my father's death informed everything. It was just who I was—it was all I was.

Quite extensive

"I think when you're suffering to the degree I was suffering during the film, and you're playing somebody who is also suffering, the overlap was quite extensive. So I felt like I had a lot of empathy and great understanding for where she. was." And her father's death changed Gwyneth's career plans, too.

"I thought, from now on I want to do things that are worth my time. Because we are all dying. Get something out of your life and make your life worth something!" *Reuters*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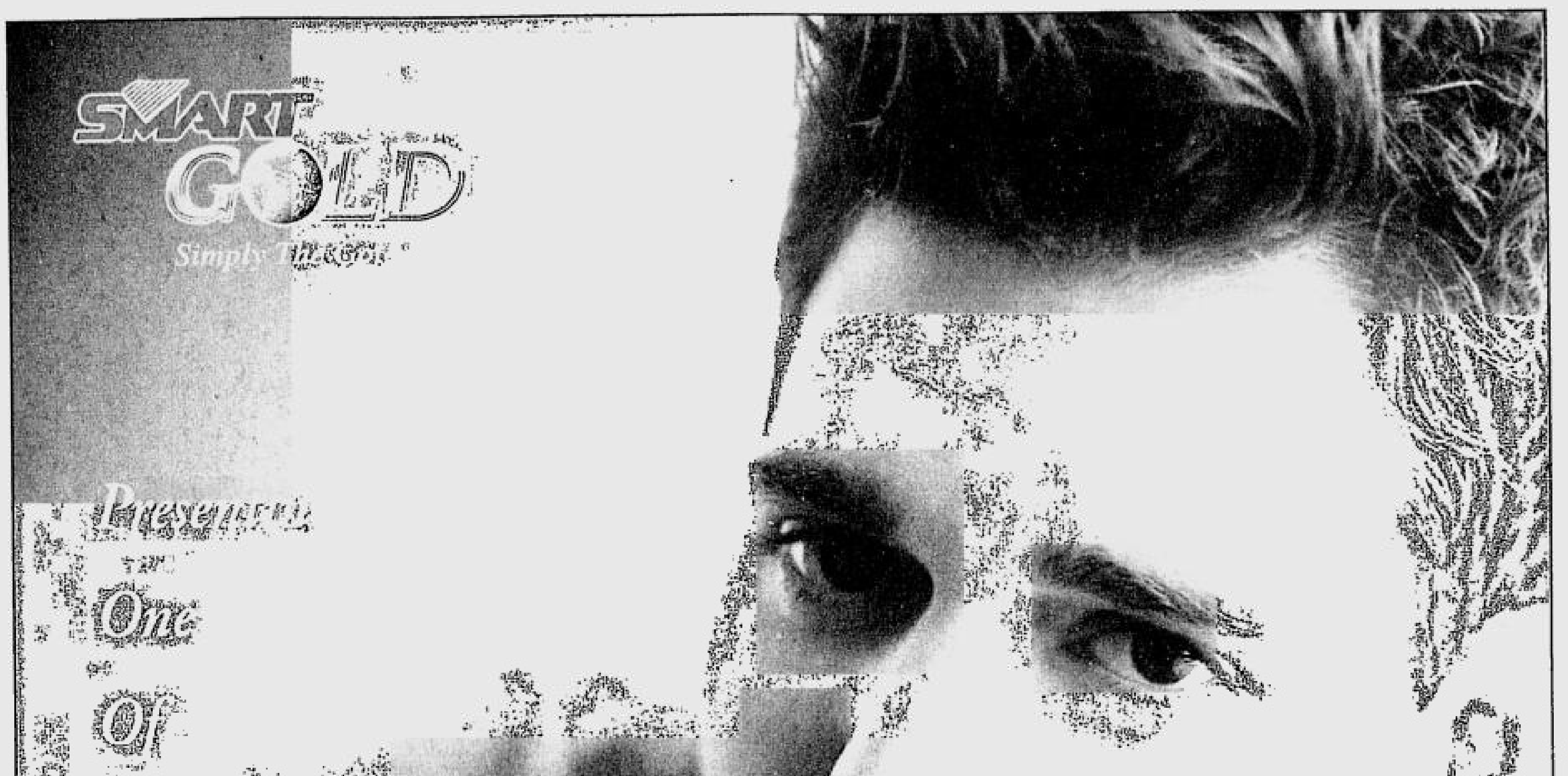
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KIDMAN (right) with "Cold Mountain" co-star Jude Law.

Nicole Kidman is the busiest star in Hollywood

(Conclusion)

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo

FROM Melissa Masa: "I'm a big fan of Nicole Kidman. What are her next movies?"

After Lars von Trier's "Dogville," Kidman will appear in "The Human Stain," with Anthony Hopkins; in Anthony Minghella's "Cold Mountain," with Jude Law and Renee Zellweger; in "Birth," as a woman convinced that a 10-year-old boy is the reincarnation of her dead husband; in "The Stepford Wives," as a young wife from New York who moves to a strange Connecticut town; in the Sydney Pollack action thriller, "The Interpreter;" in Baz Luhrmann's "Alexander The Great," as Olympia to Leo Di Caprio's Alexander and in Tony Scott's drama, "Emma's War"—!

Full calendar

It would be hard to find anyone busier in Hollyowood. Kidman was scheduled to reprise her role in "Dogville" for Von Trier's second installment, "Manderlay," of the trilogy, but she had to quit due to a full calendar.

She also had to beg off from Norah Ephron's adaptation of the TV classic, "Bewitched," and had given up a coveted role in Terry Gilliam's "Brothers Grimm," starring Matt Damon and Heath Ledger.

But she's seriously considering Steven Spielberg's offer to star in a biopic of the silent film legend, Sarah Bernhardt.

Infamous nose

Nicole is known for her utmost dedication to her craft. Remember the "infamous" nose, which took two and a half hours to "apply," for her role as Virginia Woolf in "The Hours"? Here's what she said in an interview with Dan Epstein: "We went through three different noses. The main thing was if it was going to distract or help create the character? I just didn't want to feel like a complete idiot walking around with this huge nose, and have everyone just laugh the minute I came onscreen.

"When I had the nose on, I wasn't recognized at all! Photographers would be outside my trailer, I would use a different name—and no one had any idea it was me! I love going to flea markets, and that's the thing that's difficult now. I would love to have a disguise to drift into. My children recognized me, but my son hated it. He'd say, 'Oh, not that nose again!'"

Does she prefer the over-the-top appeal of "Moulin Rouge" or the sullenness of "The Hours"? She said, "I like the balance. So much of me now is instinct. I get drawn to things at different times,

NICOLE KIDMAN/ C3

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— Paul Clinton, CNN

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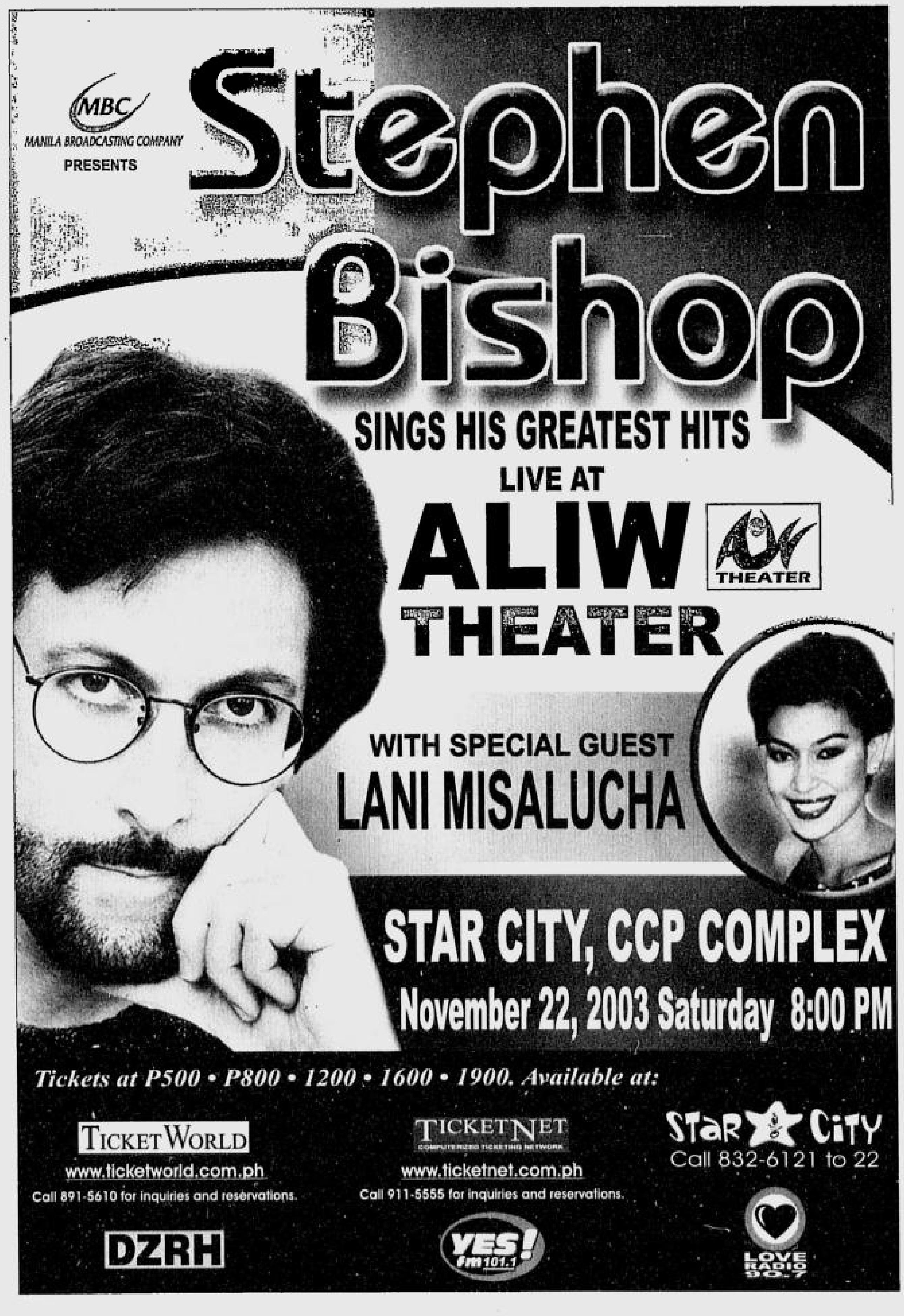

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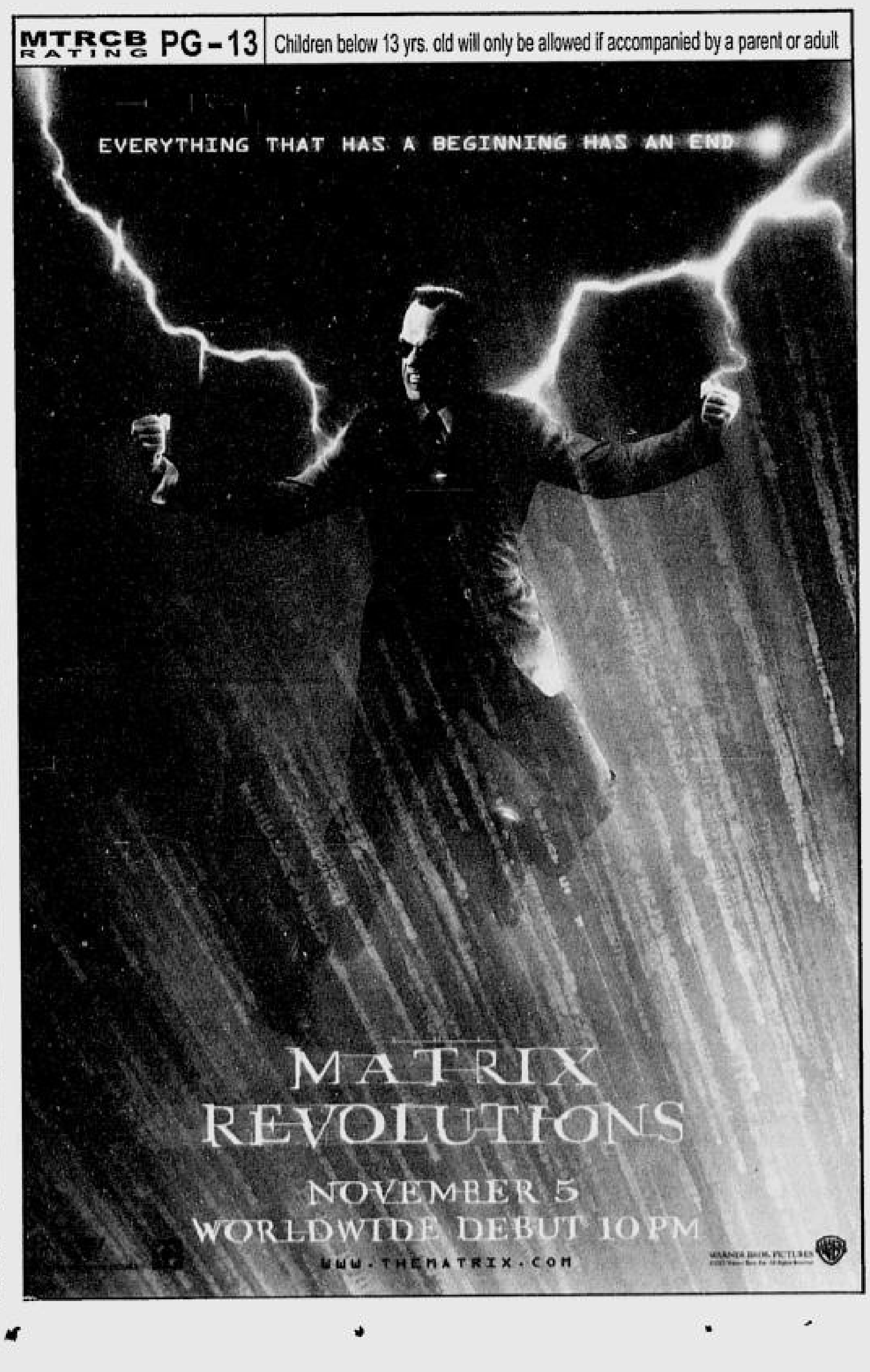

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Mon David goes back to what he does best

By Behn Cervantes

I didn't know who Mon David was in 1991. He was chosen as one of the leads in "By George!," the musical on the life of George Gershwin. I asked producers Mike Prado and Boyd Derequito who he was. They, in turn, pointed to production manager Joy de Leon. She assured me that Mon was a great talent.

Professionalism

I was quickly taken by Mon's professionalism and singular looks. I teased him and said he had the aura of a silent screen star, what with his moustache and *moreno* good looks. He got along with the young chorus members who included Lynn Sherman.

Slowly, I learned that he was often called the fourth member of the popular Apo because he played the drums for some of their numbers and, when necessary, would jam with them. Having taken up voice (under the late Aurelio Estanislao and Elmo Makil) and composition at the UP College of Music, Mon arranged an *a capella* number and co-produced the album, "Mga Kwento Ng Apo." They were all in the stable of talent manager Butch Dans.

I liked the way Mon used his voice so much that, while he was rehearsing "Fascinating Rhythm," I suggested that he interpret it only with bass accompaniment. It was great!

He promises to do a reprise of that number in "Jazz 'N Time," the Upsilon Sigma Phi jazz concert on Nov. 28 at the UP Theater.

He will have a reunion with "By George!" co-star Lynn Sherman when they join jazz stalwarts Richard Merk, Jacqui Magno, Tots Tolentino, Johnny Alegre and his group, as well as Aileen Sison and the scintillating Verni Varga, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the fraternity's jazz concerts that began in 1953.

After "By George!," Mon represented the Philippines in the 1992 North Sea Jazz Festival in the Netherlands. Then, he came out with his first album, "Salamat Sa Mga Alaala," made up mostly of pop selections.

Five major honors

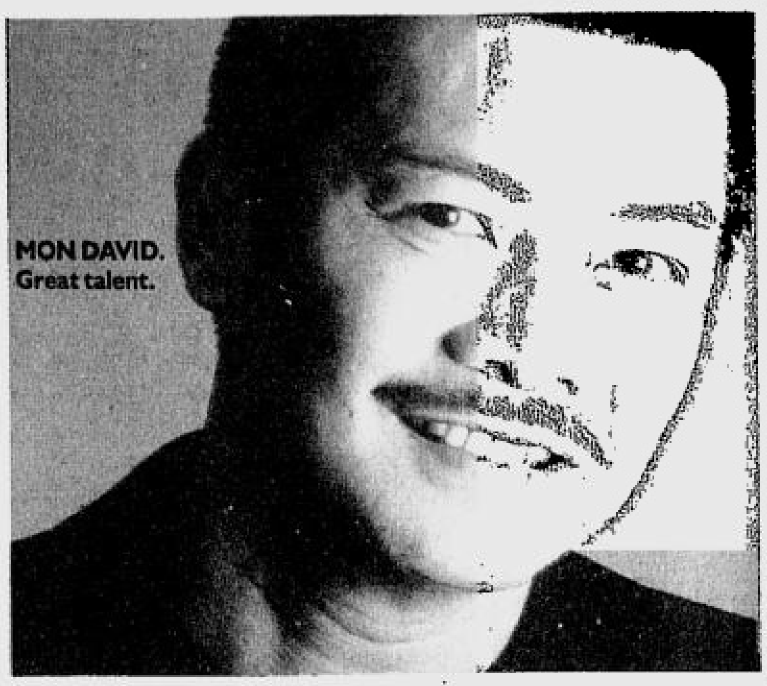
For his second album, "Soulytude," he interpreted jazz numbers. He was pleasantly surprised when the album garnered five major honors at the 7th Katha Awards. Mon was elated to have gained peer approval.

Together with Dyords Javier, Pinky Marquez and Isay Alvarez, he formed a group called Ang Fourgettables. Much later, Mon left the versatile group to pursue his interest in arrangement and composition.

He believes that the human voice is the first musical instrument. This is one reason why he has a special interest in the *a capella* approach to singing. He is a fan of Bobby McFerrin, who can entertain an audience for three hours with only the power and flexibility of his voice. He has also been greatly impressed by pianists Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett.

Mon believes that singers should listen to instrumentalists like Evans and Jarrett for phrasing, interpretation and possible nuances. Many vocalists are often limited when they become lyric and music-dependent.

And: "The human voice is the most expressive of all musical instruments. It hasn't been maximized by vocalists yet, that's all!"



MON DAVID. Great talent.

KNOWLES (left) and Gooding topbill the music-driven comedy, "The Fighting Temptations."

Exciting lineup of new movies

By Nestor U. Torre

LIKE the Supremes' Diana Ross before her, Beyonce Knowles of Destiny's Child has slowly but surely been developing herself as a solo singer and actress. She made her feature-film acting debut in "Austin Powers in Goldmember," opposite Mike Myers.

Introductory role

She registered so well on the screen in her introductory role that she was quickly tapped to play the female lead of the music-driven comedy, "The Fighting Temptations," with Cuba Gooding Jr. as her co-star.

Cuba plays slick-talking New York City advertising executive Darrin Hill, who travels back to his small hometown to claim the inheritance his Aunt Sally left him. Before he can collect, however, he must fulfill his aunt's last wish—create a gospel choir and make it a success.

But there's a shortage of good singers in town, so Darrin is about to give up—until he meets Lilly, a beautiful nightclub singer (Beyonce Knowles). Her powerful, expressive voice could rock the competition at the annual Gospel Explosion, so Lilly is just the miracle Darrin is looking for—if he can persuade her to join his gospel group.

The film is about community, about how a man can reassess his life by going back home, and that's the element that attracted Cuba to the project. For her part, Beyonce liked the script's "attitude and energy," and the opportunity that the movie's musical format gives her to sing on the big screen for the first time.

Fight scenes

For his part, The Rock is directed by former actor Peter Berg in his latest starrer, "The Rundown." The movie's unique selling proposition is its return to big, long and no-nonsense fight scenes that don't have to resort to computer trickery to make them look more powerful and exciting.

In Berg's actioner, The Rock plays a bounty hunter who goes to the jungles of Brazil to find the spoiled son (Seann William Scott) of a man to whom he owes a lot of money. While they're at it, they get involved in a treasure hunt and fight the slave-labor exploitation of the locals.

In Ashton Kutcher's case, his latest movie enables him to go really wacky, in a style reminiscent of the screwball comedies of the '30s and '40s. He plays a young executive who sets his sights on the daughter (Tara Reid) of the man (Terence Stamp) who owns the company

EXCITING/ C6

Nicole Kidman . . .

From page C2

sometimes against advice about what I should be doing. If it doesn't work, I'll take the rap for that. If it does work, then that's great! I wouldn't want to make 10 'Moulin Rouges' because I would be dead, and I wouldn't want to play Virginia for 10 years!

Diverse

"I'm fortunate the stuff I've been doing lately has been so diverse. That doesn't last forever, and I'm thankful for the blessings. I get very satiated by the kind of roles I get. You get some wisdom from the brilliant minds around you—being around people who are thinkers and philosophers. David Hare is, and Kubrick was."

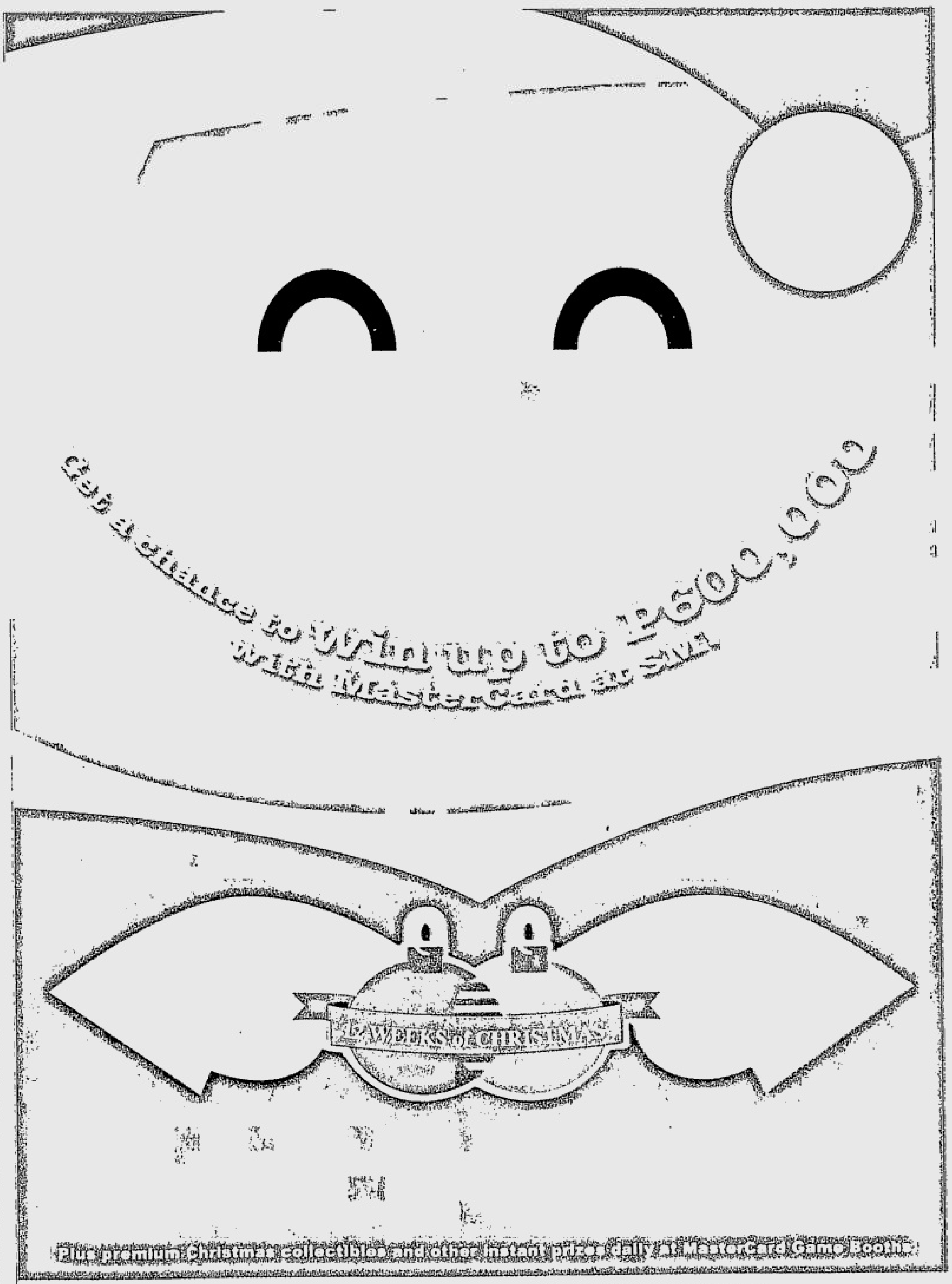
Trivia: She was supposed to star in "Panic Room," but she broke her ribs while rehearsing for a dance sequence in "Moulin Rouge," and the role landed on Jodie Foster's lap. So, she gracefully obliged to "voice" Foster's divorced husband's wife in the film.

On her morbid fear of butterflies: "It's bizarre—I'm not scared of snakes or spiders, but I'm scared of butterflies. There's something eerie about them."

She recently won two libel suits, a public apology and an undisclosed amount (which she said will be donated to abandoned children in Romania) from London tabloids that insinuated that she was the third party involved in the breakup of "Cold Mountain" leading man Jude Law's marriage to designer-actress Sadie Frost.

Draconian list

Considered one of the nicest actresses in Hollywood to work with, she dislikes being called a "diva." Thus, when rumors of her "draconian list of don'ts" (for example, no tape recorders during interviews and no personal questions) came out during this year's Toronto filmfest, she had her publicist clear the issue by saying: "What happened was that, apparently, someone from the festival took it upon himself to make those demands."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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2915 Series of 2003

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM OCT. 25 - OCT. 31

CH	2	4	5	7	9	13	23	29	E!31
[illegible]	6:00 Meteor Garden 6:30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 8:30 Home Along da Airport 9:30 Buttercup 10:30 Kontrobersyal 11:30 "F" 12:00 Sports Unlimited	7:00 Yan Ang Pinoy 8:00 The Working President 9:00 To be Announced	7:00 Sailormoon Sailor Stars 7:30 Mirror, Mirror 8:00 Wow Mali! 9:00 Viva Box Office 11:00 Go For Gold	6:00 Search for a Star 7:00 Imbestigador 8:00 Idol Ko Si Kap 9:30 Kakabakaba Adventures 10:30 Blockbuster Cinema 12:00 Master Showman	6:00 Isumbong Mo Kay Tulfo 7:00 7 Days 8:00 John Doe 9:00 Saturday Night Playhouse *Brit Awards 2003* 11:00 PGMA	5:00 PBA Provincial Game 7:00 Kitscelera 8:00 Amazing Twins 9:00 BYK 101 10:00 Travel 10:30 Global Family Series 11:00 Iyo ang Katarungan	6:00 Baywatch 7:00 Game Plan 7:30 The Amazing Race 8:30 Boston Public 9:30 Studio 23 Presents 11:30 Real Deal	7:00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9:00 Oras Ng Katotohanan 9:30 Armor of God 10:00 Oh Tokyo 11:00 Pinoy Wrestling	5:30 CBS Evening News 6:00 E! News Weekend 7:00 Celebrity Profile 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On
[illegible]	5:30 Sharon 7:00 Wansapanataym 8:30 Tanging Ina 9:30 Sunday Family Cinema *Kapamilya: ABS-CBN at 50* 11:30 Dong Puno Tonight 12:00 The Weekend News	6:00 PBA First Filipino cup 9:00 The Working President 10:00 Concert of Various Artist	6:00 Zorro 6:30 Guyferd 7:00 Ispup atpb. 8:00 Sing-Galing 9:00 Viva Cine Idols 11:00 Speed	5:30 Partners Mel & Jay 7:00 KI 8:30 Daddy Di Do Du 9:30 Sunday Night Box Office 11:20 Flash Report 11:30 Che-Che Lazaro Presents	6:00 Smack Down Wrestling 7:00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8:00 May Puso ang Batas 9:00 Sunday's Big Event *The Catholic Mass Media Awards* 11:00 A Second Look	6:00 PBA First Filipino cup 9:00 Sinemaks 11:00 Global Family Series 11:30 El Shaddai	6:00 Jimmy Neutron 6:30 Futurama 7:00 Exposed 8:00 Yes Dear 8:30 Spin City 9:00 Will & Grace 9:30 The Bachelor 10:30 Digital Tour	7:00 Sunday Mini-Series 8:00 Oh Tokyo 9:00 Sunday Night movies	5:30 CBS Evening News 6:00 E! Coming Attractions 6:30 FYE 7:00 E! Original Specials 8:00 Rank 9:00 Revealed w/ Jules Asner 10:00 Movies on E!
[illegible]	6:00 TV Patrol 6:30 Next Level Na, Game K N B? 7:00 Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay 7:30 Basta't Kasama Kita 8:00 Sana'y Wala Nang Wakas 8:30 Darating Ang Umaga 9:00 Bida Si Mister, Bida Si Misis 11:00 Insider 11:30 The Correspondents	6:00 Concert at the Park 7:00 Strangebrew 7:30 In the Raw 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 Family Rosary Crusade 11:00 Auto Focus	6:00 F 6:30 Balitang-Balita 7:00 Problema Nyo, Sagot Ko 7:30 Kool on Kam 8:30 That 70s Show 9:00 On Air 9:30 Misadventures of Maverick and Ariel 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Mad TV	6:15 Frontpage 7:00 Extra Challenge 7:30 Habang Kapiling Ka 8:10 Endless Love 8:50 Narito Ang Puso Ko 9:30 Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita 11:00 Saksi 11:30 I-Witness	6:00 Invader Zim 6:30 Entertainment Tonight 7:00 Just for Laffs 8:00 Jag 9:00 The Agency 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Sex & the City 11:00 OPTV	6:00 Quantum Info 6:30 Global Family Series 7:00 Japan Video Topics 9:00 Global Family Series 9:30 Fight Time at Elorde 10:30 IBC News Tonite 11:00 Linawin Natin	6:00 Beast Machines 6:30 Godzilla 7:00 Batman 7:30 Samurai X 8:00 Birds of Prey 9:00 Charmed 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 Travel Time	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan	6:00 E! News Live 7:00 Behind The Scenes 7:30 Mysteries & Scandals 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 10:00 Best of Late Show 11:00 Wild On
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Golden voice behind the popular jingle

From page C7

as a folk singer," he relates.

Business course

He must have sung in most of Metro Manila's folk houses. His earnings as a singer, which started at P30, enabled him to pay his way through college. He wasn't able to finish his business course at PSBA, though. *"Hindi ko kasi kinuha ang* military science, *yun lang ang kulang ko,"* he laughs.

His career dates back to the early '80s, when he first held court at Gaserra, a small folk house on Matalino st., QC. *"Doon ang tambayan ng mga aktibista, kaya doon din ako na-*expose *sa kanila,"* he recalls.

Almost 20 years into his chosen career, his perseverance has finally paid off. He has just released his

GOLDEN VOICE/ C5

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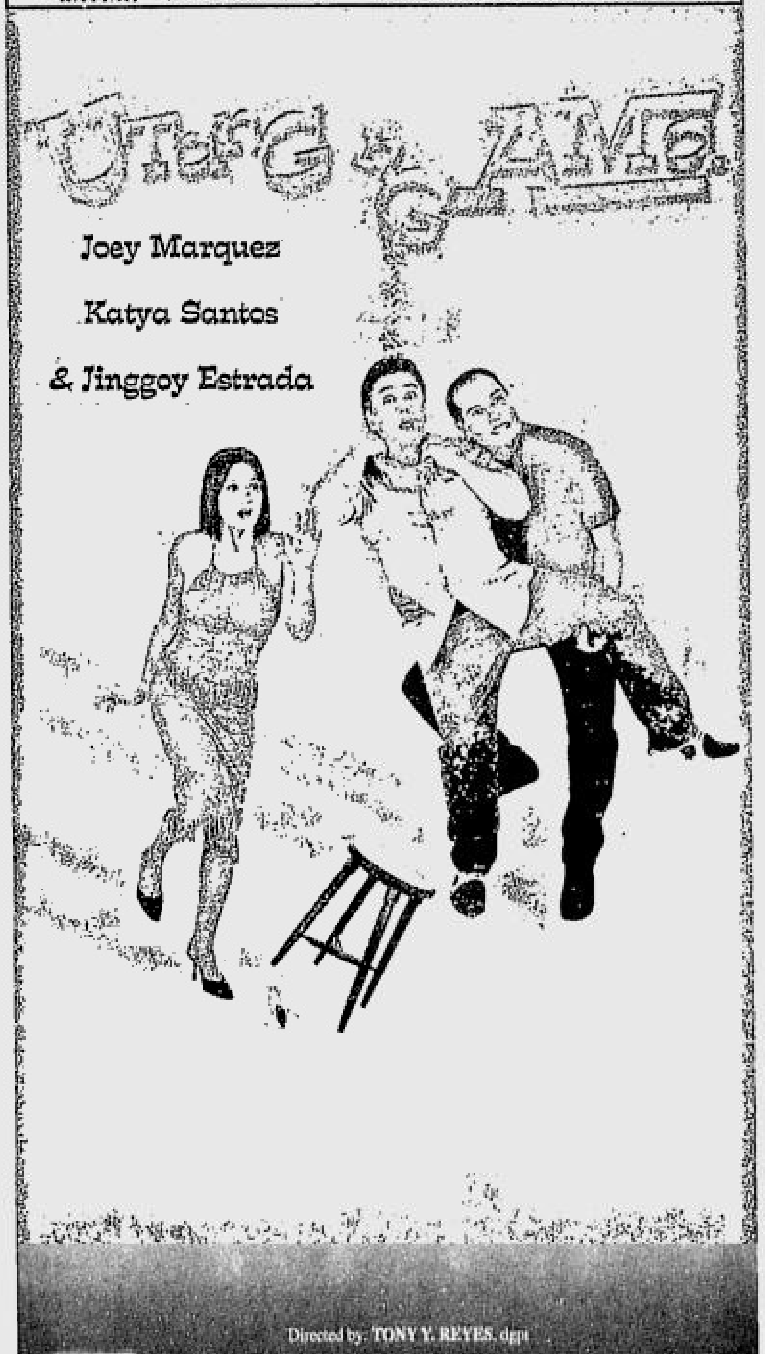

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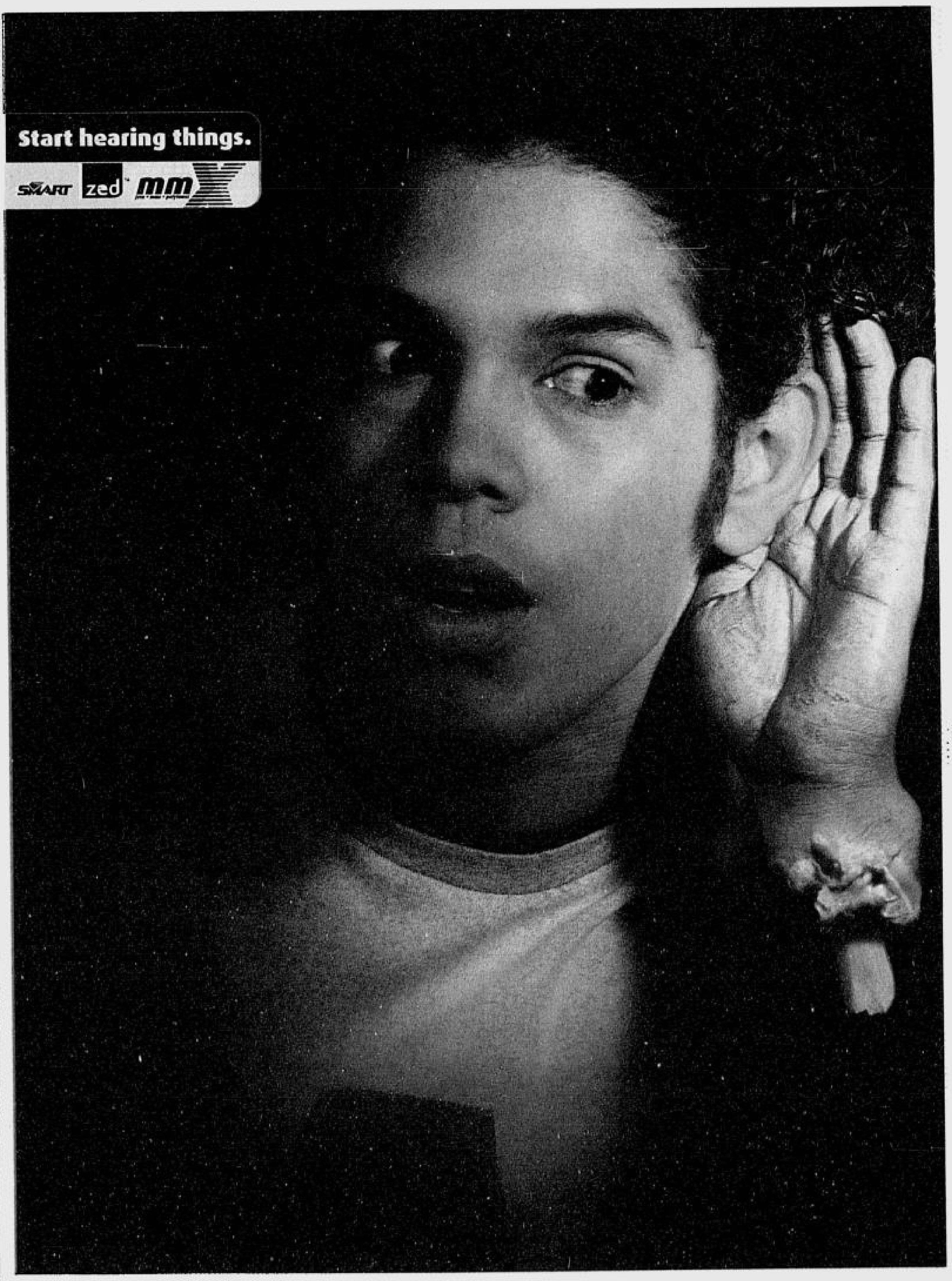

Love knows no gender

By Ronald G. Mangubat

ONE ordinary day, Sara, a twentysomething Midwestener who moved to New York to teach third grade students in the Bronx, was looking for someone to watch over her cat.

Instant friends

She found that person in Callie, a savvy die-hard New Yorker who worked as a radio traffic reporter. The two women instantly became friends. They talked endlessly about their jobs, music, parents', frustrations, boyfriends and the joys and pains of living in the Big Apple.

But their eyes and gestures told of their unspoken attraction to and affection for each other. When their attraction finally erupted into a kiss in the park, they were beaten up by a homophobic toughie, sending Sara into a coma. And their lives were changed forever.

At first, "Stop Kiss," the famous play written by Los Angeles playwright Diana Son and recently staged by the New Voice Company at the Republic of Malate, appeared to be telling a plain and simple story. But, through its unique structure of two interweaving and converging timelines, it became a riveting and piercing meditation on the complexity of human relationships, sexuality, love and friendship, and the choices that we all make in life.

The chain of events that led to the kiss and its aftermath are the two timelines (pre-kiss and post-kiss) used to draw out various insights and questions on love and life: What happens when you bare your heart and soul to a person? Is it worth stepping out of the boundaries of your comfort zones? When do you stop and when do you proceed?

Gay bashing

"Stop Kiss" also delved into the delicate topic of gay bashing and society's moral biases, but did so very subtly. In fact, a large portion of the play was made up of funny situations and witty lines that elicited peals of laughter from the audience.

However, the laughter soon tapered off because, in meaningful moments of brief silence and "eye language," interchanging emotions of sadness, fear, desire and anger eventually had a creepy, moving effect on the viewer.

Jenny Jamora, who played Callie, gave an engaging performance as the blue muffin lady who, after the "scandalous" kiss, was played up by the media as "that lesbian traffic reporter who got beat up." Missy Maramara, as Sara, didn't have Jamora's more Americanized articulation, but she had more expressive eyes.

The rest of the supporting cast, Rabbi Gannaban, Jamie Wilson, Tami Monsod and Rito Asilo, were equally believable as the other people in Callie and Sara's lives.

Monique Wilson, who directed the play, has displayed once again her skill in handling innovative and socially provocative theater. You can imagine the difficulty of directing a play with layers of subtexts hidden in "eye language," gasps and gestures, but Wilson pulled it off.

JAMORA (LEFT) AND MARAMARA. Engaging performances.

Scene changes and romantic acoustic ballads provided transitions between past and future that blended well with the play's dramatic tone.

It was to Wilson's credit that, during the scene where Callie and Sara finally kissed, there were no gasps or shrieks heard from the audience. There was only silence that seemed to say that the crowd understood.

The kiss was an expression of pure, unadulterated love between two decent, educated people who had deep respect for each other. It demonstrated that love really does know no gender.

"Stop Kiss" will have its last performances today. Call New Voice at 896-5497, or Ticketworld at 891-5610.

Last chance . . .

From page C6

actresses! In Hollywood, Judy Garland also caused a lot of pain and consternation with her moods and unprofessional ways, but a producer still allowed her to come up with her memorable performance in "Judgment at Nuremberg."

We think that, like Judy Garland, Nora deserves another chance—a last chance, if producers want to put it in that melodramatic way. And not because she's our "idol"—she isn't.

We simply base our estimation on the high quality of her best screen performances in the past, *and* on her determination to rise above her faults and limitations to set the screen ablaze again with her luminous talent.

Surely, there's an enlightened producer out there who will give her the chance to do that?

Golden voice . . .

From page C4

third solo album, "Medjas," produced by the Jesuit Music Ministry. It contains 16 tracks, 13 of which are his original compositions.

He describes it as a "pretentious" album. "*Kasi medyo* jazz siya, hence the title. I'm not a jazz artist, but I'm a big fan of the genre," he explains.

He is currently finishing his Christmas album, "Noel," which will be out next month. It will feature original compositions and Christmas classics arranged in big-band style by Noel's good friend, Bob Aves.

Noel considers '70s Bistro on Anonas st., QC as his home base. He has been the place's resident performer for the past 10 years. He is the crowd drawer on Wednesdays.

Aside from singing his original compositions, he also delights his followers with his own version of tunes by Tracy Chapman, Sting and James Taylor. On Thursdays, he sings at Dome Café, Shangri-La Mall, Edsa.

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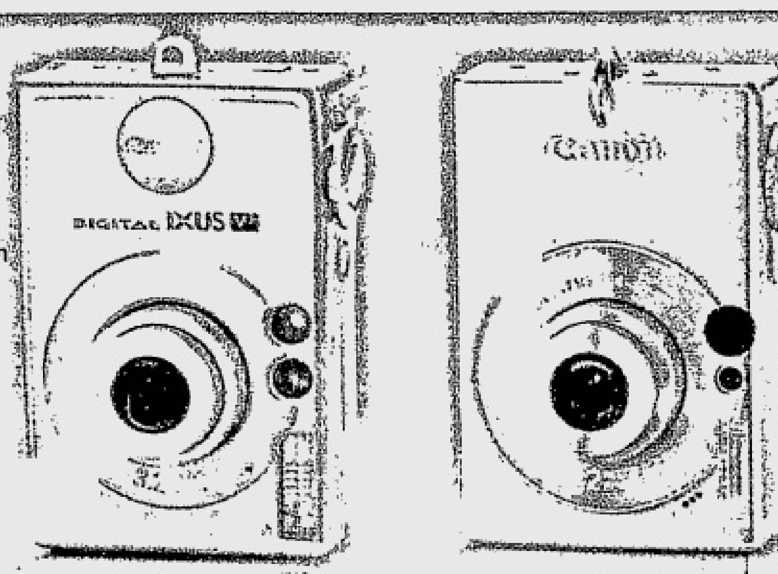

Sound Effects

Title	Keywords
Halloween Alien	MTONE ALIENIGHT
Black Cat	MTONE BLACKCAT
Psycho Chainsaw	MTONE CHAINSAW
Ghost Chant	MTONE CHANT
Ghosts	MTONE GHOSTS
Halloween Song	MTONE HALLOWSONG
Happy Halloween	MTONE HAPPYH
Haunted House	MTONE HAUNTKNOCK
Horror Movie	MTONE HORROR
Mad Man	MTONE MADMAN
Monster At Door	MTONE MONSTER2
Midnight Bell	MTONE NIGHTBELL
Monster Walking	MTONE STEPS
Torture Chamber	MTONE TORTURE
Witch Lab	MTONE WITCHBREW
Zombies	MTONE ZOMBIES

NOTE:
Sound effects only work on Nokia 7650 and Sony Ericsson P800.

Polyphonic Ringtones

Title	Artist	Keywords
Mr. Suave	*Parokya Ni Edgar*	MTONE MRSUAVE
Where Is The Love	*Black Eyed Peas*	MTONE WERISLUV
Somewhere I Belong	*Linkin Park*	MTONE SOMEWHERE
Thoia Thoing	*R. Kelly*	MTONE THOIA
Times Like These	*Foo Fighters*	MTONE TIMES
I'll Be	*Edwin McCain*	MTONE IBE
Always	*Jon Bon Jovi*	MTONE ALWAYS
Come On Eileen	*Dexy's Midnight Runners*	MTONE COMEONEI
St. Anger	*Metallica*	MTONE ANGER
Hollywood	*Madonna*	MTONE HOLLY
Broken Vow	*Lara Fabian*	MTONE BROKEN
Son Of A Preacher Man	*Dusty Springfield*	MTONE SONOFA
Should I Stay Or Should I Go	*The Clash*	MTONE STAYORGO
Give Me Just A Little More Time	*Dunber/Wayne*	MTONE GIVEME
Head Over Feet	*Alanis Morissette*	MTONE HEADFEET
Hit Me With Your Best Shot	*Pat Benatar*	MTONE HITMEWITH
Got To Believe In Magic	*David Pomeranz*	MTONE INMAGIC
Turning Japanese	*Vapors*	MTONE JAPANIS
Lucky Me	*Bachelor Girl*	MTONE LUCKYME
Santeria	*Sublime*	MTONE SANTERIA
Situation	*Yaz*	MTONE SITUATION
I'll Do Anything	*Simple Plan*	MTONE DOANY

HOW TO DOWNLOAD POLYPHONIC TONES AND SOUND EFFECTS:

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3. Select polytones
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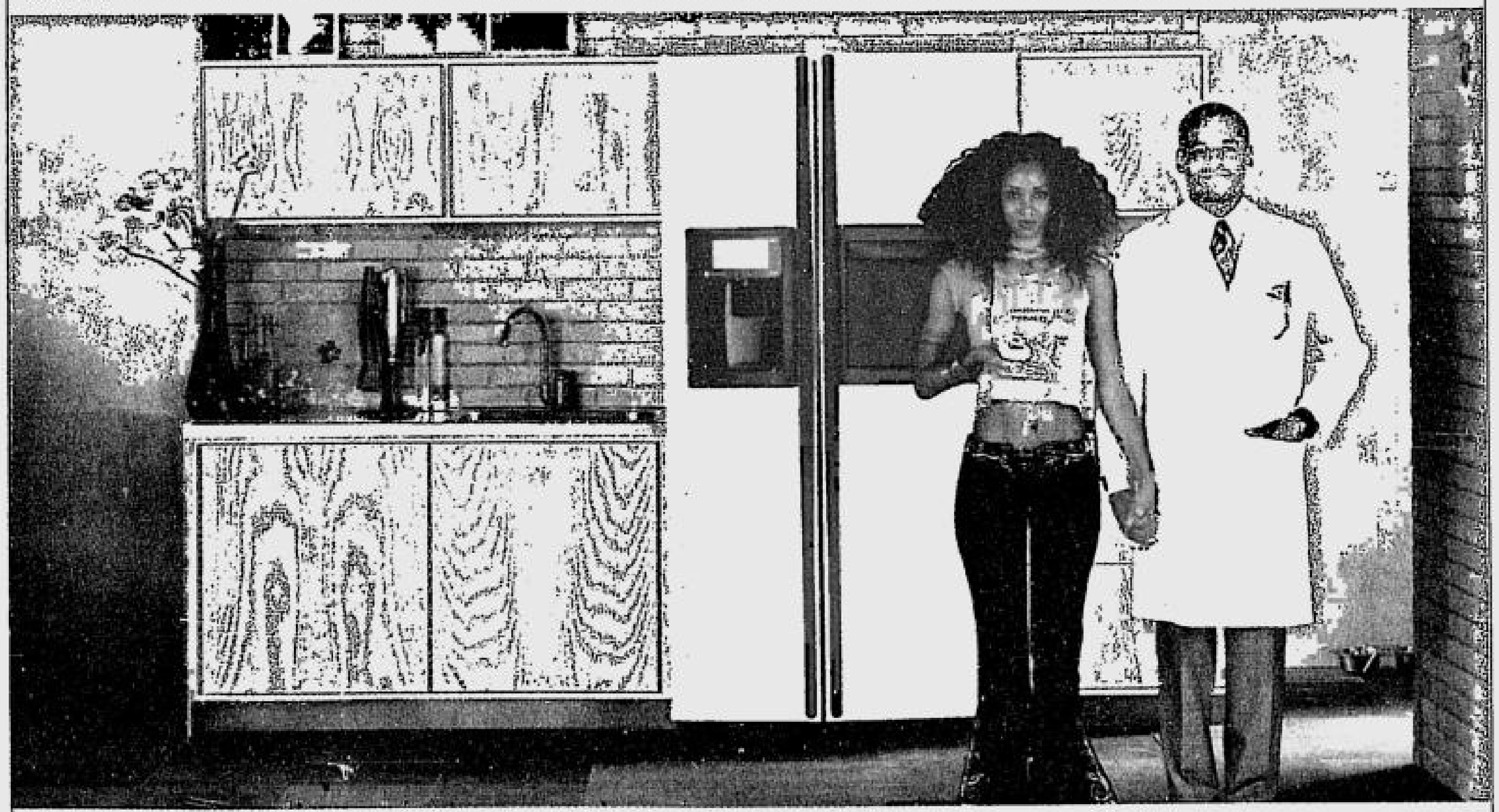

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If you're partial to art, you'll find it here. From dramatic curves and contoured surfaces to the sleek expanses of stainless steel. After all, when it comes to refrigerators, art does matter.

If you're partial to technology, you'll find it here. The ability to quickly restore temperature when groceries or heated food are placed inside. Consistent cooling to keep contents fresh. And the capacity to produce 50% more ice for parties and gatherings. After all, when it comes to refrigerators, technology does matter.

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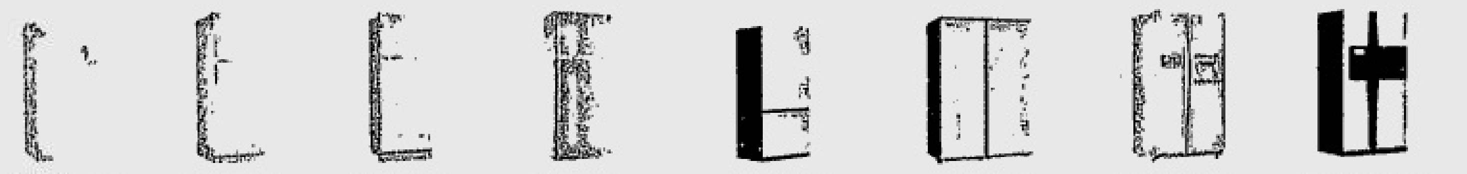
GE imagination at work



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Exciting

From page C3

where he works.

However, his plan doesn't pan out when he is suddenly faced with a house full of havoc, and the possibility that he might lose his mind—and the woman of his dreams, for good measure.

Craziness

Accounting for the escalating craziness are wacky characters, like a former secretary, a grumbling boyfriend, a misguided drug producer—and a pet owl.

Kutcher was drawn to the film by its mix of wild mishaps, romantic comedy and lighthearted surprises.

The "comedy with a real story and a real heart to it" is just what his career needs to sustain its upward trajectory, after past hits like "Dude, Where's My Car?" and "Just Married."

Last . . .

From page C7

unique combination of Filipino features and temperament, talent, maturity, abiding star appeal, ability to keep bouncing back, and new work ethic, Nora could still come up with a critical and commercial success.

Nice try, the producers shot back, and we admire you for being so loyal to your screen idol, but sad experience has proven that she has feet of sullen clay.

Bad habits

She may say that she's changed, but she eventually goes back to her bad, sad habits of yore, and we're just not going to take a chance on her anymore!

Our reaction: what a harsh indictment of one of the country's best and most iconic

LAST/ C5

Trick or Treat at Ayala Malls

Magic Show, Games,
Best in Costume Contest and Parade,
Mallwide Trick or Treating

Ayala Center Makati (Glorietta Activity Center), Oct 31, 3pm

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Ayala Center Cebu, Oct 31, 2pm

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Children below 13 yrs old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
THE ROCK
SEANN WILLIAM SCOTT
CHRISTOPHER WALKEN
ROSARIO DAWSON
THE RUNDOWN
BULLS, GUNS, WHIPS, GOLD AND ONE SACRED CAT

New Int'l Action Superstar is born!

Wrestling champ The Rock, next Schwarzenegger in 'RUNDOWN'?

Seven-time world wrestling champion The Rock (SCORPION KING, THE MUMMY RETURNS) is star of THE RUNDOWN, a spectacular crowd-pleasing, no-holds-barred, jungle-action adventure, and the No.1 movie in America.

The testosterone-packed movie launches The Rock as an International Action Superstar a la Arnold Schwarzenegger. Schwarzenegger shows his support for The Rock as the politics- bound action hero appears briefly in the slam-bang action comedy.

The Rock (or Dwayne Johnson) is Beck, a bounty hunter assigned to retrieve a wise-cracking double dealer played by Seann William Scott (Stifler in the American Pie movies), who is on a treasure hunt deep in the Brazilian jungle.

The Rundown features The Rock in a series of jaw-dropping fight scenes, including an eye-popping rumble in the jungle with our very own Ernie Reyes Jr., Fil-Am martial arts champion.

Simultaneously in Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cag. de Oro

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CHRISTOPHER WALKEN
ROSARIO DAWSON
THE RUNDOWN

SCREENING TIME:

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GALLERIA
C-1 (THX) 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30
C-2 11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 10:00

ERMITA
C-1 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

METRO EAST
C-2 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

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MTRCB Rating: PG-13

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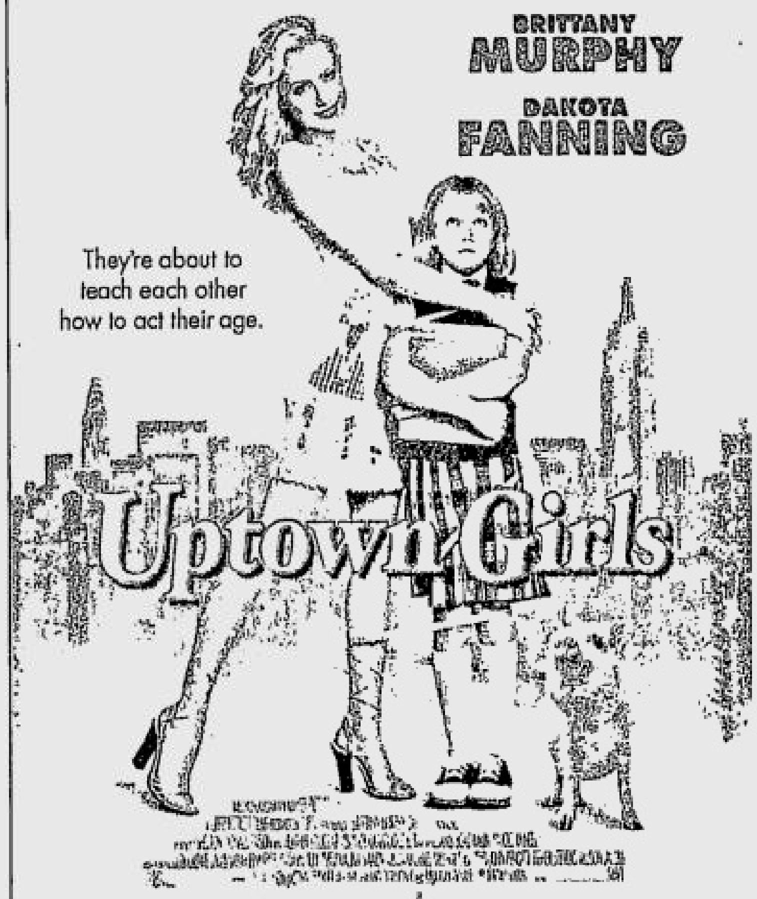
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They're about to teach each other how to act their age.
Uptown Girls

OPENS OCTOBER 29

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Last chance for Nora?

By Nestor U. Torre

AUNOR. Sins of commission and omission.

BEING a firm believer in Nora Aunor's talent, despite all her "sins" of commission and omission through the years, we've been trying to convince some producers to bankroll a comeback screen project for the Superstar. Sadly, however, they have passed on the prospect.

Big risk

—Not because they think she's lost her talent. In fact, they agreed with us that Nora has some great performances left in her. But they said they were scared to invest in a movie project for her—first, because she could no longer pull in a crowd, and second, because her lack of professionalism made her too big a risk.

We argued that Nora was still popular, noting that her "golden" birthday concert at Araneta Coliseum was well-attended. But the producers retorted that a film had to attract many more viewers than a show at the Big Dome, so the success of Nora's concert wasn't definite proof of her renewed popularity.

If only, they sighed, Nora had paced her career as well as Vilma Santos has: Vilma makes a movie only once every two years or so, but it's generally well-produced and clicks both critically and commercially. Could we cite Nora's most recent hit film? To our deep embarrassment as a Nora believer, we were stumped for an answer.

But we persisted in our defense of the Superstar, *contra mundum*, and *contra* box-office figures. We pointed out that, with her

LAST/ C6

NOEL CABANGON

Golden voice behind the popular jingle

CABANGON. Jazz fan.

By Andy P. Bais

ALMOST every other kid we've asked knows the song "Kanlungan" by heart—the heartwarming theme of the latest McDo TV commercial. Such is the power of television and, more importantly, the charm of the song's narrative and the heartfelt rendition of its singer, veteran folk singer Noel Cabangon.

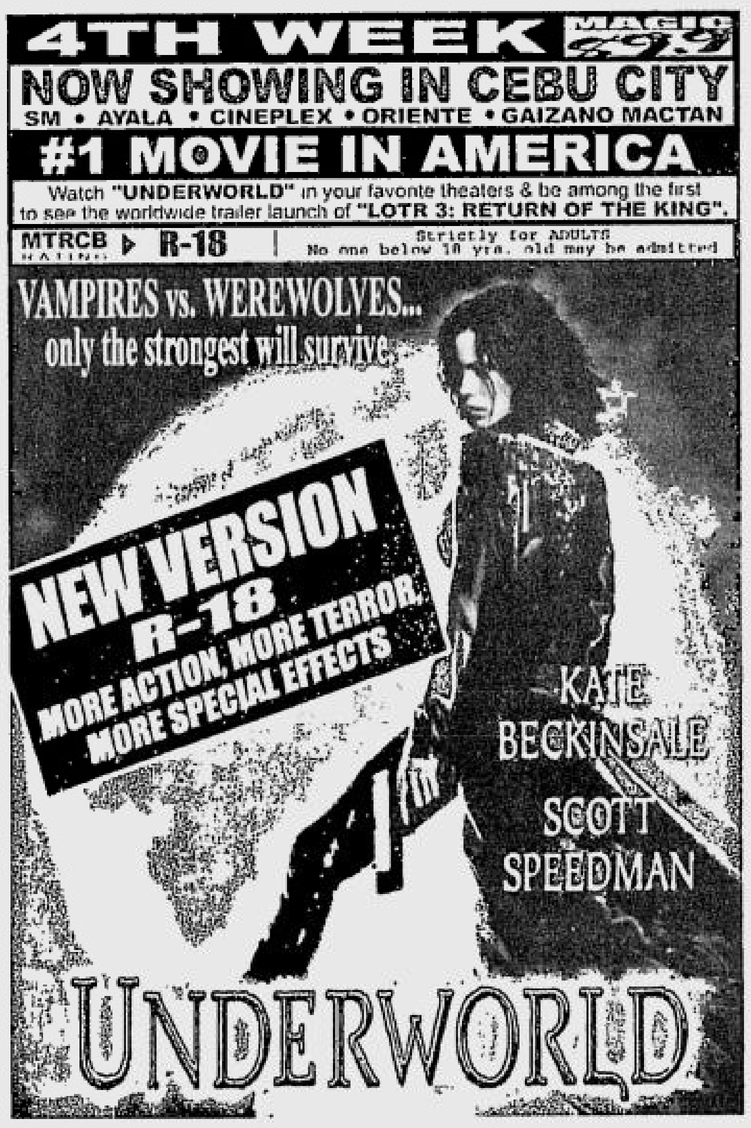
'Kanlungan'

"Kanlungan," which means shelter, has always been identified with Noel. It has been his most requested song for years now. In his gigs, he sings it at least three times a night.

The song was originally recorded in the early '90s as a duet by Buklod, of which Noel was a part. Buklod's other half was Rom Dongeto, the song's composer.

When Buklod had to part ways after three albums, Noel went on a solo career. *"Hindi ako tumigil, maski may gigs kami* as a group, *tuloy pa rin ang aking puwesto*

GOLDEN VOICE/ C4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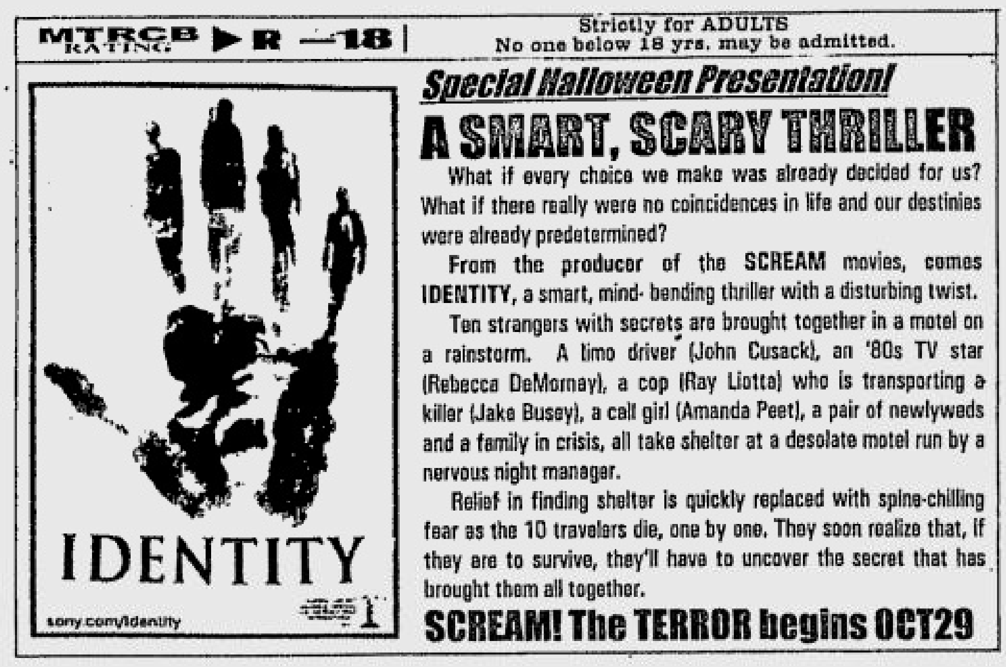
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Relief in finding shelter is quickly replaced with spine-chilling fear as the 10 travelers die, one by one. They soon realize that, if they are to survive, they'll have to uncover the secret that has brought them all together.

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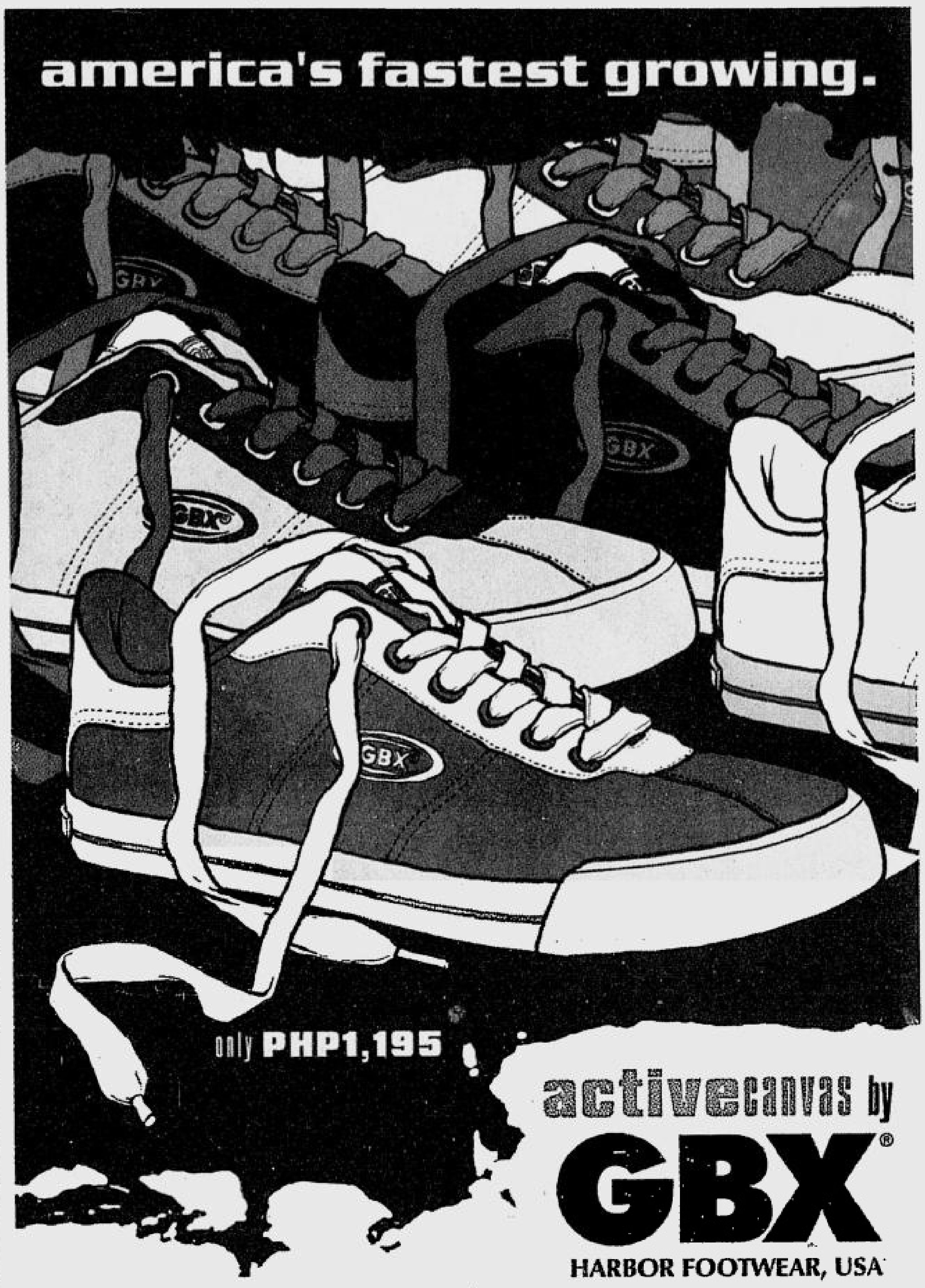
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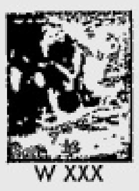
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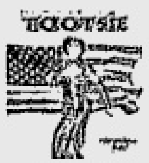
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SATURDAY *Special*

Rome rocks to 'Mother Teresa, the Musical'

ROME—A clapping chorus line of swaying nuns and a rock-and-roll Mother Teresa took Rome by storm last week in a musical to coincide with her beatification, the last step before sainthood.

Arrival

The arrival of "Mother Teresa, the Musical" was one of a series of events held ahead of her beatification by Pope John Paul last Oct. 19, six years after she died.

"I dream, I hope, I pray for you," the sprightly Teresa character sings to dancing members of the chorus representing the sick and destitute in the upbeat production.

To a series of reggae, funk and pop tunes, the show focuses on the five decades Mother Teresa spent caring for slum-dwellers in Calcutta, India—for which she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.

The opening number received rapturous applause from an audience of school children, teachers and nuns.

Beatification ceremony

The musical has already toured across Italy and played twice daily in the Italian capital until the beatification ceremony when the pope declared Mother Teresa "blessed"—one rank short of being a saint.

"Music is a universal instrument, above all for kids, and each song contains a message," said the show's composer Michele Paulicelli, who plays a missionary. "Mother Teresa is a point of reference for every person and every religion."

More than 200,000 pilgrims flocked into the Vatican's St. Peter's Square for the ceremony, which took place three days after Pope John Paul II celebrated the 25th anniversary of his pontificate.

Mother Teresa's religious order, the Missionaries of Charity, organized an exhibition about her life to mark the beatification—displaying some of her possessions, including her crucifix, sandals and trademark blue and white sari.

The exhibit in a Rome church also featured photographs of her childhood in

ROME/ D2

"MOTHER TERESA, THE MUSICAL." Dramatizes the much-loved nun's five decades of selfless service. REUTERS/AFP

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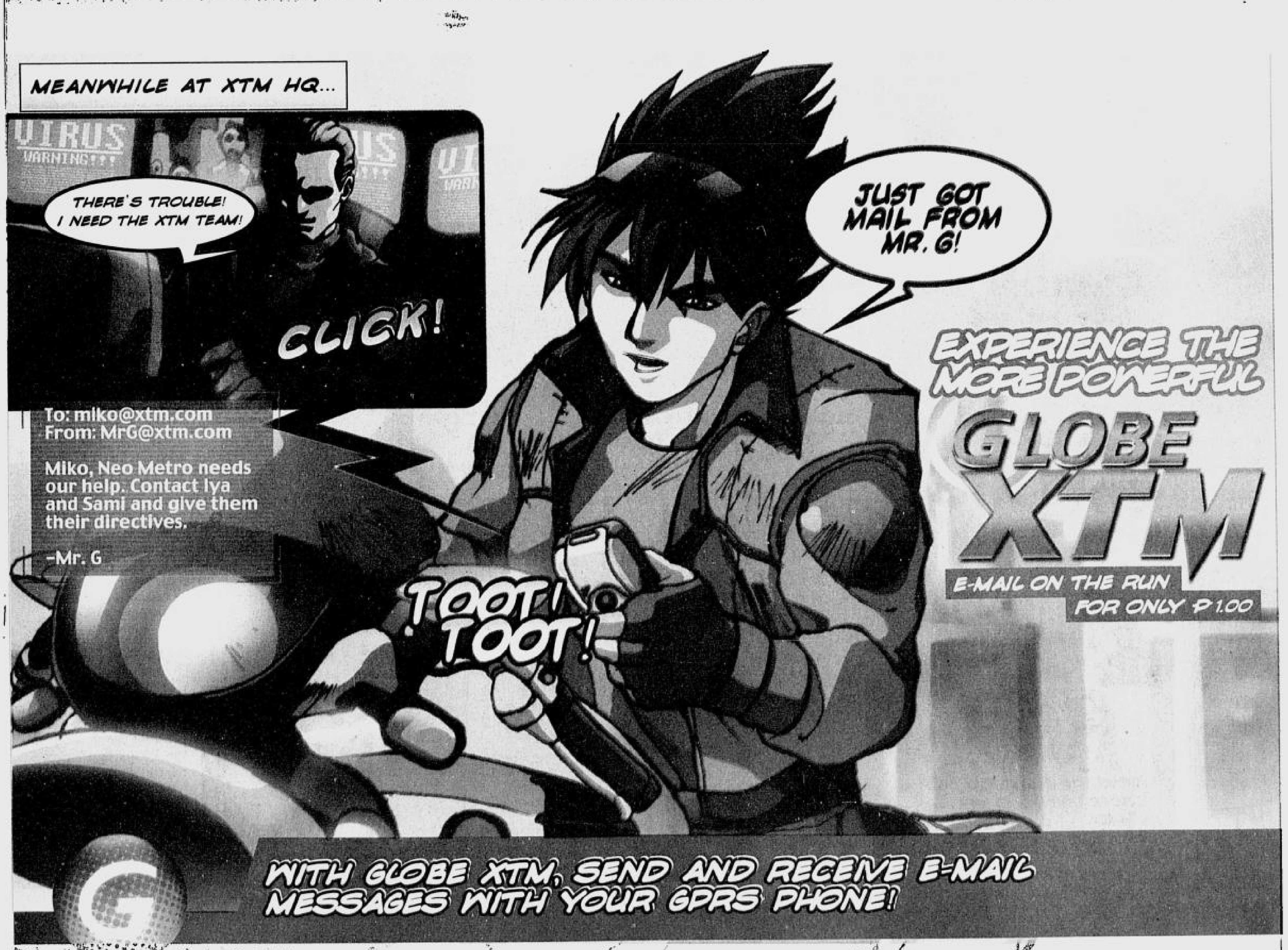
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2ND SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL

Classy lineup of intelligent, commercially viable movies

By Rito P. Asilo

AMONG European films, Spanish features are probably the most accessible to the Filipino audience. Spaniards share our temperament, sensibility and self-deprecating humor, not to mention our obvious historical association.

Our cultures are so enmeshed that, while some Europeans have no idea where the Philippines is, the Spanish capital of Madrid, in honor of its Asian *hermanos*, has named one of its major streets the Avenida de Filipinas, where a replica of Jose Rizal's monument stands proud.

"EN CONSTRUCCION." Builds a perverse sensation of looking through windows and into rooms.

Poorly coordinated

It's not surprising why, despite deficient public information on the screenings (try calling up the Glorietta hotline and you'll know what we mean) at the ongoing Second Spanish Film Festival in Greenbelt, which ends tomorrow, the audience has come in droves.

But Instituto Cervantes director Javier Galvan, Señor Jose Ma. Fons and their staff should be commended for this festival's classy lineup of intelligent, commercially viable films. This year's filmfest certainly shows the dynamic state of the film industries in Spain and Latin America. With a religiously followed screening schedule and a reasonable P30 entrance fee, the viewer is assured of a grand time at the movies!

The lineup does not disappoint. If the Instituto's objective is to feature films that shatter stereotypical perceptions of the Spanish-speaking world, this year's filmfest is on the right track.

BOTTO. "Martin Hache" lead star who could soon join the big leagues.

Documentary films have rarely been enjoyable, but the inclusion of Jose Luis Guerin's Goya-winning "En Construccion" (Work in Progress) is a pleasant exception. A tightly edited 18-months' worth of footage, this film follows well-delineated characters who inhabit the immediate perimeter of a Barcelona construction site.

Thoughts

Unlike most documentary films, the camerawork here is impeccable. Characters casually speak thoughts that make sense. The film builds a perverse sensation of looking through windows and into rooms as we listen to "everyday" people: bricklayers, a squatting couple, the Moroccan minority, even a Filipino toddler! But scenes appear too "clean" sometimes, so we wonder if they were deliberately staged to achieve the film's mood of urban poetry.

Rodolfo Aristarain's "Martin Hache" is our top pick from a truly excellent lineup. A well-written character piece that's as intelligent as it is riveting, it covers a lot of ground: parenthood, the prevalent drug culture, suicide, gender roles, friendship, etc.

Though occasionally preachy, this masterpiece is surprisingly engaging and, ultimately, moving. Watch out for Juan Diego Botto (as Jay), star potential who could soon join Antonio Banderas, Gael Garcia Bernal and Penelope Cruz in the big leagues. *(To be concluded)*

Regine sings Streisand's best

FOR her concert series slated to premiere in November at Onstage Greenbelt, Regine has decided to revisit her earlier musical inspiration, Barbra Streisand.

VELASQUEZ. Revisits her earlier musical inspiration.

Daunting task

Though it's a daunting task selecting which among Streisand hit songs will make it to the program, Regine is expected to cover a wide range of genres comprised of Barbra's best-loved songs, from classics and standards ("People," "My Man," "Cry Me A River," "The Way We Were," and the Yentl songs: "Papa, Can You Hear Me?," "The Way He Makes Me Feel," "A Piece of Sky"), to pop songs ("Guilty," "The Main Event," "Enough is Enough/ No More Tears"); from Broadway ("Sunset Boulevard's" "As If We Never Said Goodbye," "West Side Story's" "Somewhere," "Cats'" "Memory," "Phantom of the Opera's" "All I Ask of You") to romantic ballads ("Evergreen," "You Don't Bring Me Flowers," "Till I Loved You," "My Heart Belongs to Me," "On My Way to You").

"Songbird Sings Streisand" premieres on Nov. 14 and will run every Friday and Saturday at Onstage in Greenbelt 1, Makati. Call 891-5610 or 551-7777.

Born Barbara Joan Streisand (she later removed the letter "a" from her first name), she traces her humble beginnings to a quiet Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York. The young Barbra was determined to be an actress, but soon discovered her singing ability, as well.

Talent

A talent like hers could hardly remain unnoticed. Barbra soon caught public attention with her portrayal of a clumsy-yet-charming secretary, Miss Marmelstein, in her first Broadway musical, "I Can Get It For You Wholesale" in 1962. She literally stole the show and married her leading man, actor Elliot Gould.

Two years later, she was headlining her very own musical, "Funny Girl," in which she played legendary showgirl Fanny Bryce.

Barbra's meteoric rise to superstardom peaked as she moved from New York City to Hollywood, appearing in the film adaptation of "Funny Girl," for which she won her Best Actress Oscar in 1969. Her crossover to the movies made her one of the most successful multi-media superstars of our time.

Ayen's 'Bawat Gabi' wins Awit award

AYEN Munji-Laurel emerged a winner at the recently concluded 16th Awit Awards when she took home the Best Music Video of the Year trophy for her first single from her self-titled debut album, "Bawat Gabi."

MUNJI-LAUREL. Will direct the inspirational concert, "One."

Music video

The music video also took home three other awards: Best Music Video Performance (Ayen Munji-Laurel); Music Video Producer of the Year (Cynthia de Guzman-Bayaborda, Grace Quisias, Desiree Pe), and Best Music Video Director (Jun Reyes).

Ayen is currently busy with rehearsals for "One," an inspirational concert which will be held at the Folk Arts Theater on Nov. 22. It will be headlined by Verni Varga, Anna Fegi, Franco Laurel and Luke Mejares, with the special participation of Paolo Santos.

In the ensemble are Edward Granadosin, Reuben Laurente, Carlo Orosa, Eric Antonio, Joel Trinidad, Roy Rolloda, Ricci Chan, Roden Araneta, Alvin John de la Peña, Sheila Francisco, Gigi Posadas, Tex Ordoñez, Lana Jalosjos, Mayen Bustamante, Mylene Evangelista, Stella Cañete, Tricia Jimenez and Luchie Huang.

Rome rocks to Mother Teresa . . .

From page F1

Skopje, capital of present-day Macedonia, her early years as a nun in Ireland, her work in Calcutta and her funeral in 1997. She died at age 87.

The Vatican Museums, one of the world's largest collections of art from Egyptian mummies to Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel frescoes, is also honoring the "Saint of the Gutters," by extending the opening hours and cutting the entry fee.

The proceeds will be donated to Mother Teresa charities. *Reuters*

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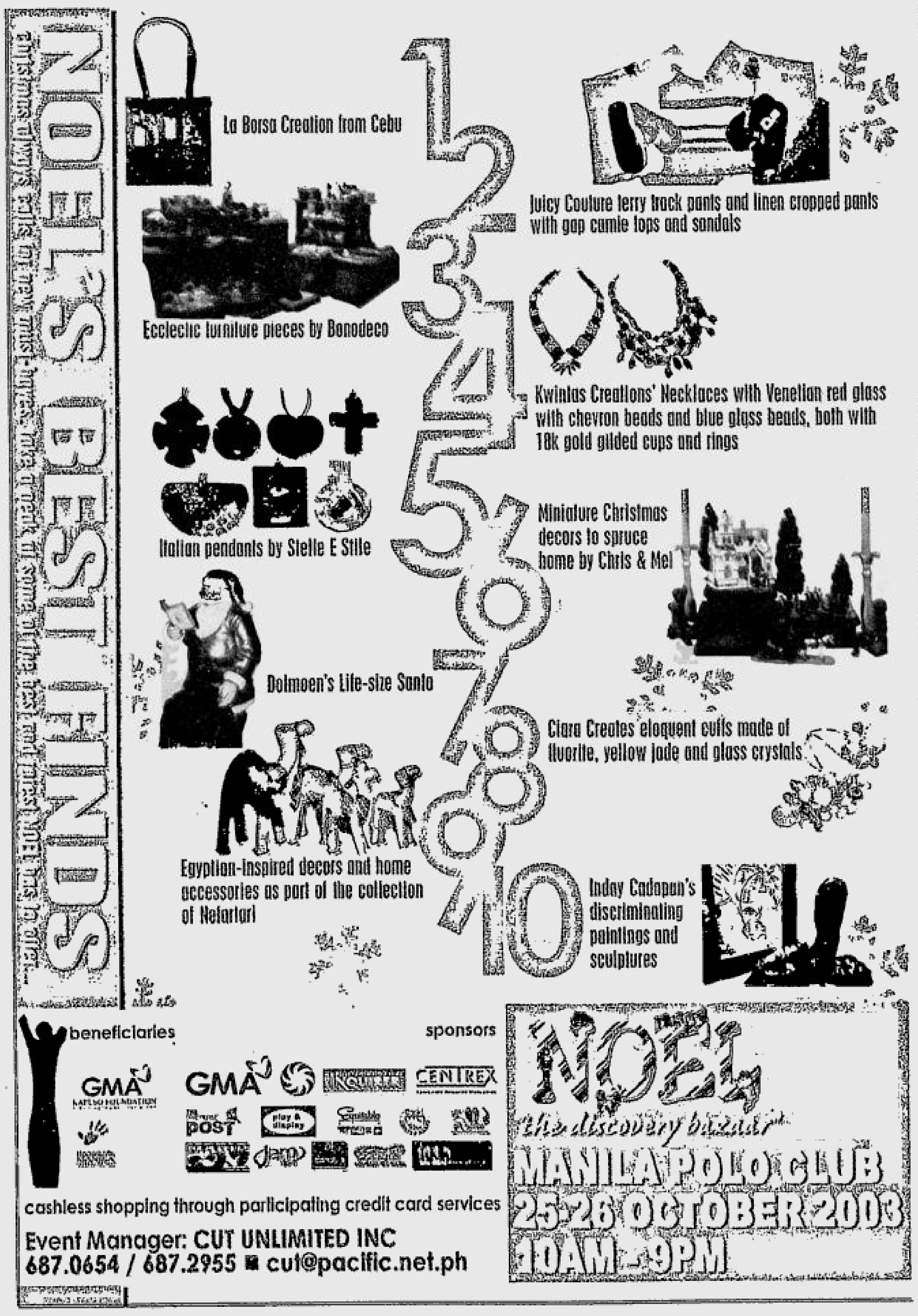

NOEL'S BEST FINDS
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Juicy Couture terry track pants and linen cropped pants with gap camie tops and sandals
Ecclectic furniture pieces by Bonodeco
Kwintas Creations' Necklaces with Venetian red glass with chevron beads and blue glass beads, both with 18k gold gilded cups and rings
Italian pendants by Stelle E Stile
Miniature Christmas decors to spruce home by Chris & Mel
Dolmoen's Life-size Santa
Clara Creates eloquent cuffs made of fluorite, yellow jade and glass crystals
Egyptian-inspired decors and home accessories as part of the collection of Nefartari
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NOEL the discovery bazaar
MANILA POLO CLUB
25-26 OCTOBER 2003
10AM - 9PM

Well-loved children's show given interactive spin

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE HALLMARK channel's new show, "Play with Me, Sesame," gives the much-loved "Sesame Street" educational show a more contemporary, interactive spin. Designed for pre-schoolers, the program mixes fresh segments with classic "Sesame Street" footage.

The lovable gang of Ernie, Bert and Grover are still around, encouraging young viewers to join in the fun. Bert invites kids to work on the computer, Grover gets them singing and dancing, and Ernie encourages them to play all sorts of fun games.

The show's participatory approach helps young children prepare for school socially, emotionally and intellectually. Its activities help develop children's creativity and expressiveness. "Play with Me Sesame" airs on Hallmark weekdays at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., and 10:30 a.m. on weekends.

'dzRJ Reunion Concert'

Tonight's the night for dzRJ's 40th anniversary toast, a stellar reunion of Filipino musical artists at Araneta Coliseum. Led by Ramon "RJ" Jacinto, top performers representing different decades from the '60s onwards will render their signature numbers.

Performers include Mitch Valdes, Leah Navarro, Jose Mari Chan, Pepe Smith, Freddie Aguilar, Jolina Magdangal, Pilita Corrales, Sampaguita and Janet Basco, and groups like RJ and the Riots, Hotdog, Boyfriends, the Dawn, and Barbie's Cradle. Call 911-5555.

Award for Dreamscape

Dreamscape, the indoor entertainment center at Robinsons Galleria, recently won the award for "outstanding party and entertainment services" conferred by the Ideal Family and Parents Foundation and the National Consumers Affairs Foundation.

The entertainment center was found outstanding in terms of service features and quality, contribution to the well-being of families, public opinion and pricing.

Dreamscape has popular rides like the Super Sonic V rollercoaster, Thunder Cruiser, Roaring Rapids, Speed Bugs bump cars, Dream Wheel and Grand Parade Carousel. Call 631-7594.

'Bridges of Love'

Songbird Regine Velasquez warms the heart in "Bridges of Love," an IBC-13 TV special to air today at 9 p.m.

The concert was staged at the Makati Shangri-La Ballroom for the benefit of the Bridges Foundation Inc., a non-stock, non-profit institution that has given special kids a new lease on life by providing them quality education.

In 1992, the school began with five students in the program. From an original six-student class, it now houses 70 students under one roof.

"PLAY WITH ME, SESAME." Helps develop children's creativity and expressiveness.

'A Pet's Affair'

Pets and their owners will have a grand time on Sunday, Oct. 26, at the pet show and fair, "PetsCapade 2: A Pet's Affair," at Festival Supermall in Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang.

Activities: Holy Mass and blessing of the pets at 10 a.m. Free pet check-up. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., registration of pets for the "Dress Up Your Pet" and "Animal Dream Homes" competitions.

At 1 p.m., Dr. Fil America of Petcamp talks about basic pet grooming. Aldo Vidal and Mandy Palicpic of Premier Dog School conduct basic obedience training for dogs from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Judging for the "Animal Dream Homes" competition starts at 2 p.m.

From 3 to 5 p.m., pets take to the ramp in the "Dress Up Your Pet" fashion show and competition. Call 850-3514.

Final performance

If you still haven't seen Bahaghari's production of "Late Nite Catechism" at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium (RCBC Plaza, Ayala ave.), the blockbuster religious comedy will have its final performance at 8 p.m. on Oct. 26. The one-person play alternately stars Zeneida Amador and Baby Barredo. Call 891-5610.

Eighth anniversary

GMA-7's "Startalk" marks its eighth anniversary at 2:30 p.m. today with a special collection of stories about celebrities who defy convention. The popular show biz talk show is hosted by Rossana Roces, Butch Francisco and Lolit Solis.

Healing concert

To honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, The New Covenant Catholic Community, in cooperation with Mama Mary's Movement, will hold a Marian Healing Concert today from 1 to 7 p.m. at Siena College Hall, Del Monte ave. corner Sto. Domingo st., QC.

There will be a presentation by the TNCCC Music Ministry, Holy Mass, healing session and speakers from the Catholic clergy and laity, like TNCCC's spiritual director, Fr. Larry B. Faraon, O.P. Call 732-7440.

Anna Fegi and Bituin Escalante are the duo to beat

By Mary Ann A. Baustista

ANNA Fegi and Bituin Escalante recently opened the Serendipity Lounge Series of Crossover Live with three duets: "A House Is Not a Home," "Midnight at the Oasis" and "Invisible War," and we knew that it was going to be a night to remember.

Powerful voices

They both had powerful voices. While Anna tried to downplay it, Bituin flaunted it. They had different singing styles. Anna was warm and sweet, Bituin sassy and sultry.

Bituin showed her romantic side when she did a Michel LeGrand medley. She infused sauciness into "Stuff Like That." She turned the song around and made it her own.

Anna's approach was more laid-back. She sang "Sunlight" and "Moon River" without going overboard. Her voice was filled with longing, yearning, sadness, love and hope.

Anna's version of "What Good Is That" and "Someone Like You" clearly mirrored loneliness and grief. She instantly connected with her audience.

Tender appeal

Bituin lent a sultry, tender appeal to "One Hello."

They both made it a point to do songs requested by the audience. Though they didn't sing their signature songs, they cheerfully gave in to requests. Bituin sang "Kung Ako Na Lang Sana," and Anna did "Kahit Isang Saglit."

But they brought the house down with "Home" and "I Am Changing," an exhausting number that tested their vocal prowess and stamina. The song didn't give them enough time to breathe, but they made singing it look effortless. It helped that they were both belters. Their voices seemed perfect, there were no flats or sharps, and they hit their notes with precision.

ESCALANTE AND FEGI. Brought the house down with their rendition of "Home."

DIABETES:
Life Changes for the Better

Discovering the New You

Diabetes seems to rewrite life for most people. Self-care comes with a little shedding of the old you. Elaine, who used to food binge when stressed, now diligently follows a meal plan after being diagnosed with diabetes. Alan, also a diabetic, has abandoned the couch and regularly brisk-walks 30-45 minutes, three times a week.

What compels diabetics to be in control of their condition?
To stay as far away from the following complications as their physical, mental and emotional strength would allow them:

- Eye disease (can lead to loss of vision or even blindness)
- Kidney failure
- Heart disease
- Nerve damage (may cause a loss of feeling or pain in the hands, feet, legs, or other parts of the body)
- Stroke

Diabetes is a high maintenance condition. According to Dr. Teresa Plata Que, Vice President of the Philippine Diabetes Association, "the pillars of diabetes management are home glucose monitoring, diet, exercise, medication and patient education." Indeed, self-care is a huge responsibility.

Self-care is self-control as it is self-discovery.

Blood Sugar Monitoring: A Test of Discipline

Regular monitoring of your blood sugar level is necessary to know how your food intake, exercise, stress and medication affect your glucose level.

The results are used to make adjustments in insulin, diet or activity. There's the hemoglobin A1c test which measures your blood sugar control over the last 3 months.

Then there's the finger-stick test you can do on your own using a blood glucose meter. It measures your blood sugar at the time you test.

A Change in Diet: A Change of Heart

With the help of her doctor and a dietician, Elaine understood the value of sticking to her meal plan. A meal plan shows you what to eat and how much of it you can have in a day. Little by little she appreciated the following principles:

- The more carbohydrates you eat, the higher your blood sugar gets.
- If you go beyond the amount of food recommended in your meal plan, your blood sugar goes up.
- Calories, too, affect your blood sugar level so it is important to count your caloric intake.
- Eating small meals, spaced several hours apart, can also help maintain your glucose levels.

Moreover, Dr. Que shares that complex carbohydrates are preferred over simple carbohydrates. Carbohydrates provide energy and sources of which are whole grains, fruits and vegetables. She also recommends food that are high in fiber, low in fat and more of polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fats. The diet must also be in proportion with the intake of protein and other fats.

Medication: Cures Delinquency

Realizing that taking the prescribed medicine for diabetes is key to controlling it for life, there is no room to make lame excuses for not sticking to it.

Living with Diabetes and the New You

Diabetes is life altering. However, the changes do not only affect your activities. The changes that are equally important are those you make in yourself. Living with diabetes and learning more about it leads to discovering a better you --- more determined, focused, responsible and yes, a healthier you!

To help you stay healthy is Glucerna SR! Glucerna SR is a convenient low-calorie meal or snack replacement for diabetics complete with all essential vitamins and minerals. SR stands for slow release carbohydrate that results in a lower blood glucose level. The fat formulation is high in Monounsaturated Fatty Acids that help keep lipid levels in check and provide other benefits for cardiac health. It is also lactose-free and gluten-free with soluble fiber content that is healthy for the gut. Glucerna SR is available in delicious buttery caramel vanilla flavor.

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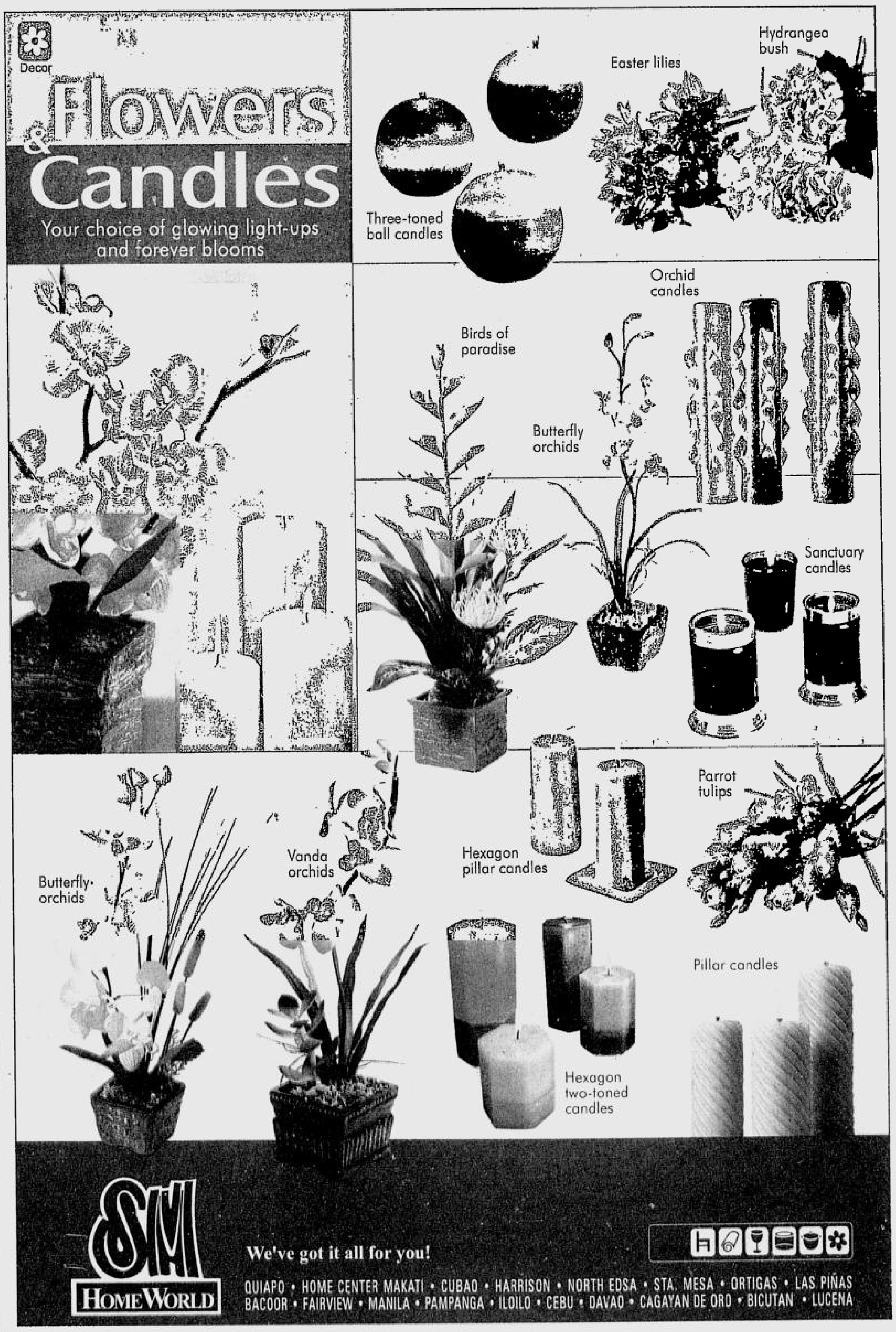

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Vanda orchids
Butterfly orchids
Pillar candles
Hexagon two-toned candles
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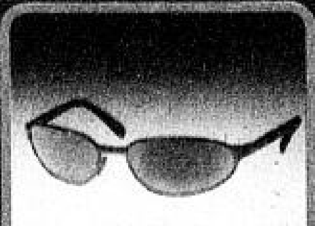
RAY-BAN SUNGLASSES COLLECTION

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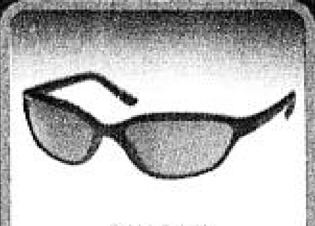
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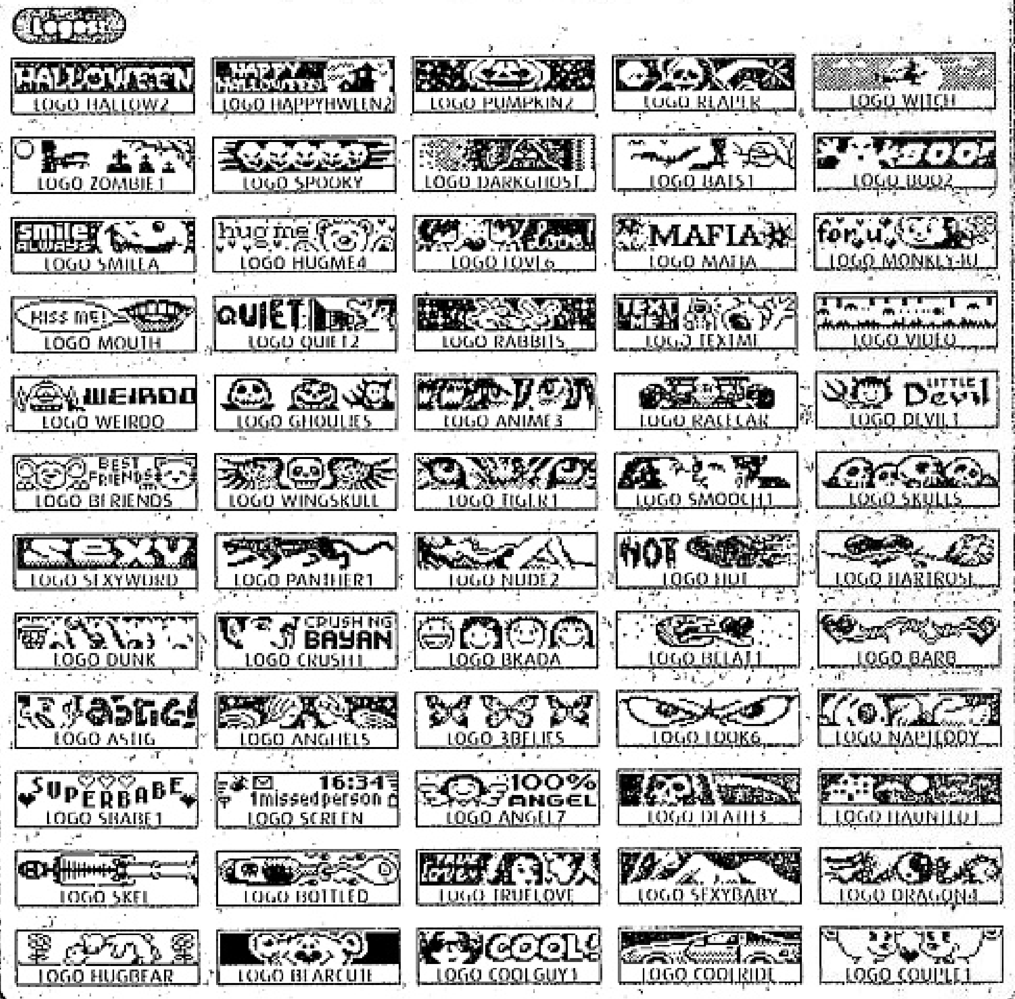
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LOGO PUMPKIN2
LOGO REAPER
LOGO WITCH
LOGO ZOMBIE1
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LOGO BOO2
LOGO SMILEA
LOGO HUGME4
LOGO LOVE6
LOGO MAFIA
LOGO MONKEY-U
LOGO MOUTH
LOGO QUIET2
LOGO RABBITS
LOGO TEXTME
LOGO VIDEO
LOGO WEIRDO
LOGO GHOULIES
LOGO ANIME3
LOGO RACECAR
LOGO DEVIL1
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LOGO WINGSKULL
LOGO TIGER1
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LOGO PANTHER1
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LOGO HARTROSE
LOGO DUNK
LOGO CRUSH
LOGO BKADA
LOGO BEAT1
LOGO BARB
LOGO ASTIG
LOGO ANGHELS
LOGO 3BFLIES
LOGO LOOK6
LOGO NAPTLODY
LOGO SBABE1
LOGO SCREEN
LOGO ANGEL7
LOGO DEATH3
LOGO HAUNTED1
LOGO SKEL
LOGO BOTTLED
LOGO TRUELOVE
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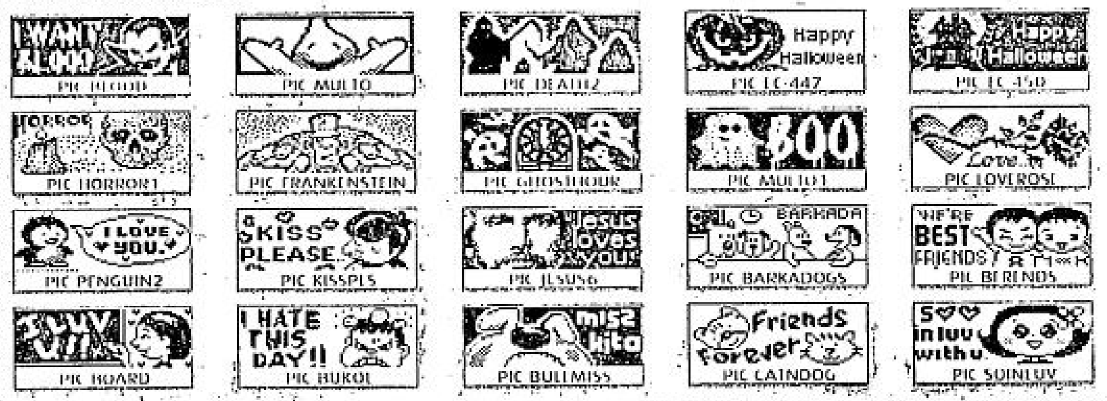
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PIC DEATH2
PIC EC-447
PIC EC-450
PIC HORROR1
PIC FRANKENSTEIN
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PIC LOVEROSE
PIC PENGUIN2
PIC KISSPLS
PIC JESUS6
PIC BARKADOGS
PIC BFRENDS
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PIC CATNDOG
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Featured tone of the week:
I Want You by Thalia And Fat Joe.
Exclusively available via POWTONE.

Ring tones

Title	Artist	Keyword
Mr. Suave	*Parokya Ni Edgar*	**TONE MRSUAVE**
Spaghetti Song	*Sexbomb*	**TONE SPAG**
I'll Be	*Edwin McCain*	**TONE IBE**
Where Is The Love	*Black Eyed Peas*	**TONE WERISLUV**
Unwell	*Matchbox 20*	**TONE UNWELL**
Numb	*Linkin Park*	**TONE NUMB**
Ignition	*R. Kelly*	**TONE IGNI**
Broken Vow	*Lara Fabian*	**TONE BROKEN**
Can't Lose You	*F4*	**TONE CANTLOSE**
Mr. Suave Version 2	*Parokya Ni Edgar*	**TONE MRSUAVE2**
Tuwing Umuulan At Kapiling Ka	*Regine Velasquez*	**TONE UMUULAN**
Banal Na Aso	*Yano*	**TONE BAHAL**
Kanlungan	*Noel Cabangon*	**TONE KANLUNGAN**
Here We Are	*F4*	**TONE HEREWE**
Thoia Thoing	*R. Kelly*	**TONE THOIA**
Build Me Up, Buttercup	*Sound Alike*	**TONE BUTTERCUP**
Get Busy	*Sean Paul*	**TONE GETBUSY**
If You're Not The One	*Daniel Bedingfield*	**TONE IFYOURNOT**
Bigger Than My Body	*John Mayer*	**TONE BIGGER**
Perfect	*True Faith*	**TONE PERFECT**
Faint	*Linkin Park*	**TONE FAINT**
I Will Love Again	*Lara Fabian*	**TONE LOVEAGN**
Asereje	*Las Ketchup*	**TONE ASEREJE**
Bliss	*Alice Peacock & John Mayer*	**TONE BLISS**
We Are The Champions	*Queen*	**TONE CHAMPIONS**
Iris	*Googoo Dolls*	**TONE IRIS**
Paraiso	*Smokey Mountain*	**TONE PARAISO**
On A High	*Duncan Shiek*	**TONE ONAHIGH**
All I Have	*Jennifer Lopez*	**TONE ALLIHAVE**
Maybe	*Enrique Iglesias*	**TONE MAYBE**

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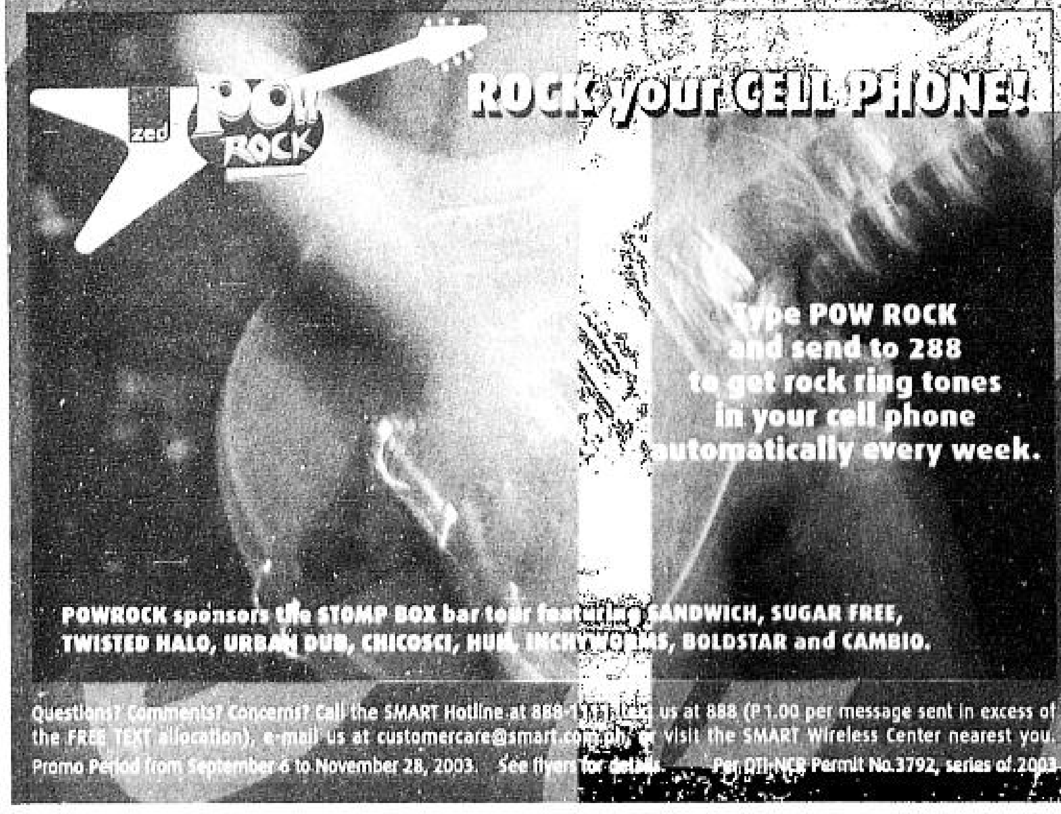
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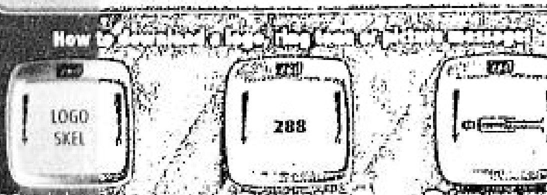
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To send a picture message, PIC BLOOD 0918123456[illegible]

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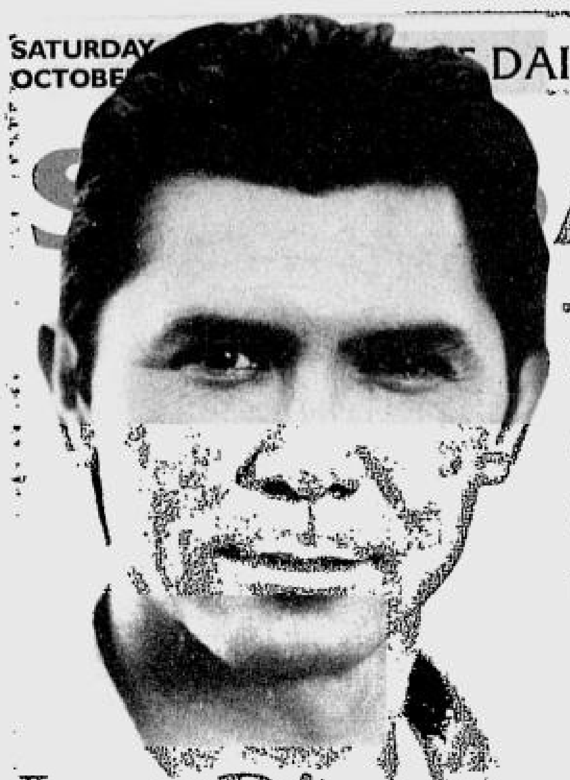

AY Special

He is more comfortable deflecting attention than attracting it

PHILIPS. Will star in, direct and produce the movie, which could start shooting in January.

Lou Diamond Phillips to play Fil-Am singer in new film

BRECKENRIDGE, Colorado—At 41, Lou Diamond Phillips gets a little sentimental when he looks back on a career that includes roles in 40 movies and a Tony nomination for "The King and I."

Restrospective

"Talk about a career retrospective—I look at my resumé and start to feel suddenly old," the 41-year-old Phillips said last week at the Breckenridge film festival.

His first film was "Angel Alley," a Christian youth film made in Dallas when he was 19, but he became a star with his portrayal of Richie Valens in 1987's "La Bamba."

Since then, Phillips has earned a Golden Globe nomination for his performance in "Stand and Deliver," and became an official member of the Brat Pack for his role in "Young Guns."

He insists he is more comfortable deflecting attention than attracting it.

Cameo appearance

He was in town to support his friend Tom Hodges, director of an eight-minute comedy. Phillips makes a cameo appearance in the short film about two men who use their sexual dysfunction to turn the adult film industry into a business filled with family, friendship and love.

Phillips said he is keeping busy, working on a film about his native Philippines. He said he plans to star, direct and produce a film about a Filipino singer with American blood who never knew his father. He hopes to begin filming in January.

Filipino causes are dear to Phillips, who has been working to pass a benefits bill for the soldiers who fought along with American troops in World War II.

"There are about 40,000 men left, and now the benefits are secondary to them," he said. "They want recognition. They want to be told 'thank you' for the sacrifices they made. They feel overlooked and underappreciated." AP

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- Face Peeling
- Back Cleaning
- Whole Body Peeling (Face, Body, Armpit, Arms & Legs)
- Body Bleaching (Face, Body, Armpit, Arms & Legs)
- Non-Surgical Face lifting w/ Eyebag Treatment and Collagen Mask (Face & Neck)
- Non-Surgical Eyebag Treatment
- Wart Removal
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- Anti-Dandruff/Falling Hair Treatment
- Hair Grower Treatment

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Malnutrition among Senior Citizens

How is Lolo? How is Lola?
1st of 5 parts

When asked about Lolo and Lola, Filipinos talk about their seniors with much fondness, not realizing that they could be demonstrating signs of a problem that is difficult to notice -- malnutrition.

What is Malnutrition?

Malnutrition is defined as any nutritional disorder caused by insufficient, unbalanced, or excessive diet, or by the impaired absorption or assimilation of nutrients by the body. Just when you thought malnutrition was a condition diagnosed in children, now even senior citizens can be quietly suffering from it.

In the United States alone, 1 out of 4 senior citizens is malnourished. It has been estimated that up to 55% of seniors admitted to hospitals are suffering from malnutrition.

The Causes

Trouble chewing and/or swallowing Poor dental health, an irritated throat or some other medical condition will surely reduce food intake.

Diminished sense of taste and smell Upon reaching the senior years, one's sense of taste and smell begin to deteriorate. Tastebuds dull to salty and sweet so food tastes bland reducing desire to eat. Those who wear dentures may also lose sensitivity to sour and bitter tastes. Food choices become limited, so do preferences.

Physical problems as a result of a disorder or an illness Tremors from conditions such as Parkinson's disease or physical limitations after a stroke make eating difficult.

Emotional state If you observe Amang or Inang to be distant or somewhat depressed, these are natural reactions to the changes taking place (whether it be physical, physiological, emotional or mental). Understand that these feelings affect appetite a great deal.

Dietary Restrictions Your parent who has diabetes or heart problem may have low calorie-protein intake.

Ageing is a process as complicated and as challenging as growing up. The stages can come fast or slow but key to everything is knowing what to expect and how to cope.

Help your loved ones celebrate ageing year after year while staying well-nourished, healthy and happy.

Prevent malnutrition. Consult your physician on effective ways to provide Lola and Lolo better nutrition through Ensure - the complete and balanced oral meal replacement.

ADVT.

SMART MUSIC LINK

Certified Top Picks.
<Here are chart-toppers that best define you.>

Freaky Friday - OST
Original Soundtrack
Me vs. The World
by Halo Friendlies
Keyword: mevsdworld

Elephunk
Black-Eyed Peas
Shut Up
Keyword: shut

Sacred Love
Sting
Whenever I Say Your Name
Keyword: wheneverisay

The R. in R&B
Greatest Hits Vol. 1
R. Kelly
Bump & Grind
Keyword: bumpngrind

Thirteenth Step
A Perfect Circle
The Package
Keyword: dpackage

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You can also download via WAP. Just visit the SMART WAP site, select Polytones and click on Music Link.
To automatically receive one of the featured tones every week, key-in **TONE ON** (for ringtones) or **POLY ON** (for polytones) and send to **209**.

TOWER RECORDS · VIDEO · BOOKS
Top 25 Albums of the Week
M music

1 **Between The Stars And Waves**
Rivermaya
keyword: ***aluv2share***
2 **Tunog Acoustic**
Various Artists
keyword: ***kanlungan***
3 **Michael Bublé**
Michael Bublé
4 **Acoustic Night Live**
Various Artists
5 **Playlist**
Paolo Santos
6 **Popstar: A Dream Come True**
Sarah Geronimo
7 **A.K.A.: Almost Kinda Acoustic**
Various Artists
8 **Long Ago Tomorrow**
Siobhan Pettit
keyword: ***walkonby***
9 **Life For Rent**
Dido
10 **Heavier Things**
John Mayer
11 **Bigotilyo**
Parokya Ni Edgar
12 **Dangerously In Love**
Beyoncé Knowles
13 **Metamorphosis**
Hilary Duff
14 **Nyoy Volante with Mannos**
Nyoy Volante
15 **The R. in R&B Greatest Hits Vol. 1**
R. Kelly
keyword: ***bumpngrind***
keyword: ***thoiathoing***
16 **Heaven**
Nina
17 **Sacred Love**
Sting
keyword: ***wheneverisay***
18 **Chasing Time II**
Martin Nievera
19 **Elephunk**
Black Eyed Peas
keyword: ***shut***
20 **Come Away With Me**
Norah Jones
21 **Thirteenth Step**
A Perfect Circle
keyword: ***dpackage***
22 **Piano Player**
Maksim
23 **Forward**
John Trones
24 **80s Replay**
Various Artists
25 **Freaky Friday - OST**
Original Soundtrack
keyword: ***mevsdworld***

Other Available Ringtones: Gravity by Vienna Teng (keyword: ***gravity***)

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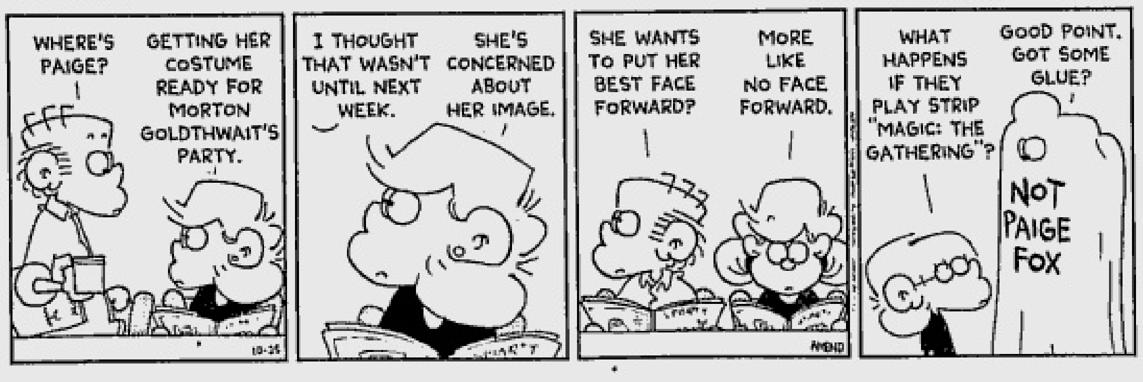
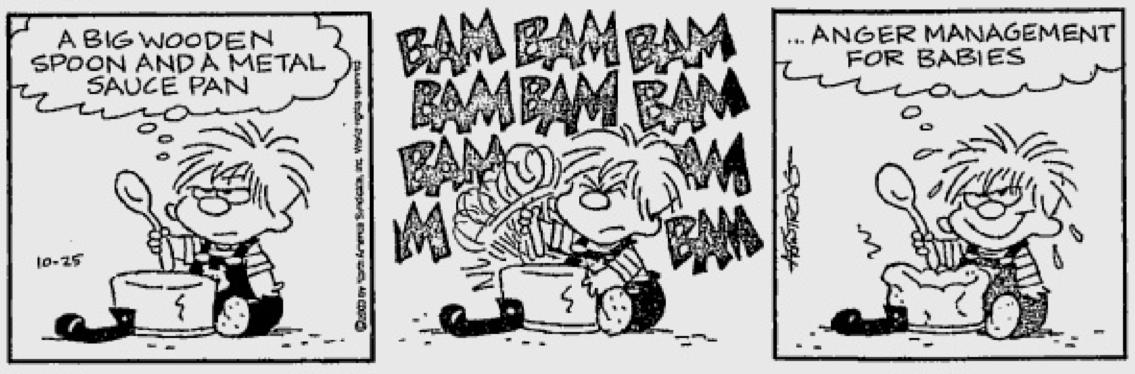
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


WHERE'S PAIGE?
GETTING HER COSTUME READY FOR MORTON GOLDTHWAIT'S PARTY.
I THOUGHT THAT WASN'T UNTIL NEXT WEEK.
SHE'S CONCERNED ABOUT HER IMAGE.
SHE WANTS TO PUT HER BEST FACE FORWARD?
MORE LIKE NO FACE FORWARD.
WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY PLAY STRIP "MAGIC: THE GATHERING"?
GOOD POINT. GOT SOME GLUE?
NOT PAIGE FOX
10-25
AMEND

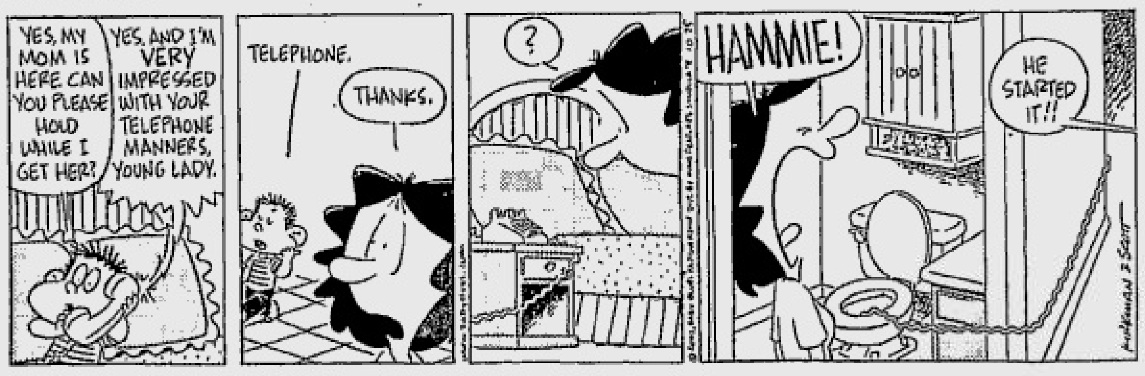
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


A BIG WOODEN SPOON AND A METAL SAUCE PAN
10-25
BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM
... ANGER MANAGEMENT FOR BABIES
ARMSTRONG

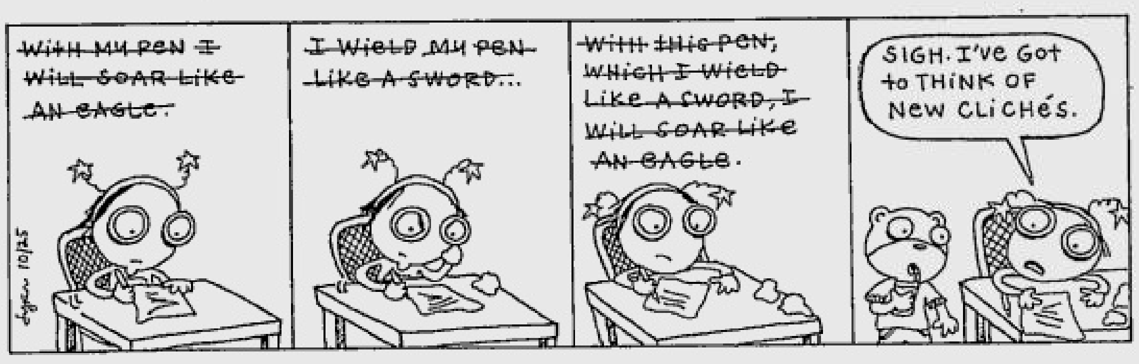
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


YES, MY MOM IS HERE CAN YOU PLEASE HOLD WHILE I GET HER?
YES, AND I'M VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR TELEPHONE MANNERS, YOUNG LADY.
TELEPHONE.
THANKS.
?
HAMMIE!
HE STARTED IT!!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


~~With my pen I will soar like an eagle.~~
~~I wield my pen like a sword...~~
~~With this pen, which I wield like a sword, I will soar like an eagle.~~
SIGH. I've Got to THINK OF New CLICHÉS.
lyra 10/25

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are physical and earthy. Others feel this solidity and know you are reliable. You want to give shape and form to your ideas. Your practical abilities combined with your sensitive imagination allow you to be extremely productive. Work hard this year because your rewards will come the following year.
Birthdate of: Midori, violinist; James Carville, political strategist; Nancy Cartwright, Bart Simpson's voice.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): This is a good day for making resolutions. Think how you can share resources and property with others to everyone's mutual advantage.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): This is a good day to think about how to improve your communication with friends and partners. Remember, you have to be as good for your partner as she or he is for you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): How can you improve your working conditions or how you do your job? Think of just two things that would make your job easier and more enjoyable.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): This is a good day to ask yourself if you allow yourself to express your creativity. Children do it all the time. Adults slowly forget. Get back in touch with your creative impulses.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): How can you improve where you live? How can you improve your relations with family? Today is the perfect day to think about these questions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): In all your relations with others, including the general public, be extra-clear in your communication. Make sure that others understand what you really mean.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Make a resolve today to get on top of your finances. Figure out how much money you have and don't have. Where does it all go each month?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Today the Moon and Sun are in your sign, the only New Moon in your sign all year. This is the perfect time to think about how to present a more attractive public image to the world.

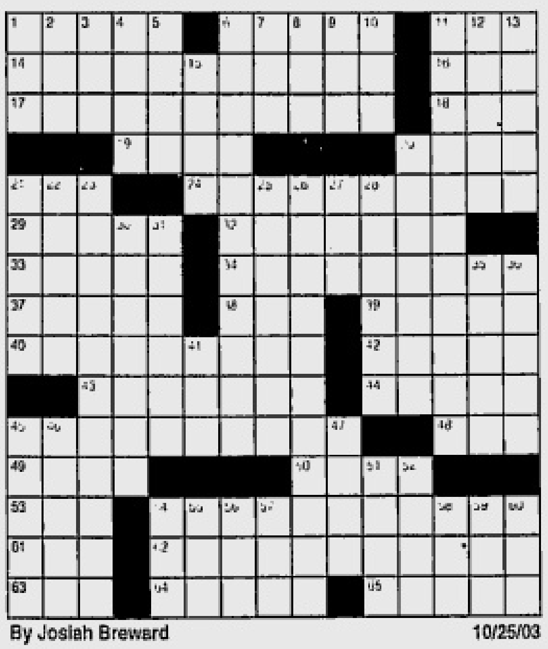
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): With such an emphasis on shopping, working and acquiring things, it is easy to forget our inner life. Think about how you can restore your feelings of self-love and self-respect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): This is a good day to think about friendship. Do you like your friends? Your friends can influence your decisions, which in turn can influence your future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Where do you want to be 10 years from now? Five years from now? What do you have to do this week to begin that journey?

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Think about any course of study or training that you can take to improve your quality of life or your work. Once you quit learning, it's over.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Josiah Breward
Scranton, PA
10/25/03

ACROSS
1 Katmandu's kingdom
6 Cuban product
11 Sch. group
14 Be too fruitful
16 Dashed
17 Numbered pages again
18 Final one
19 Louisville Sluggers
20 Brink
21 Unruly gathering
24 Majesty
29 Unsuited
32 Product booklets
33 __ incognita
34 Debate chair
37 Toothpaste containers
38 Actress MacGraw
39 Clan
40 Looks on
42 "__ of God"
43 Staggerers
44 Della of "Touched by an Angel"
45 Subduer
48 Morning condensation
49 Swift pace
50 Final
53 Be under the weather
54 Super supplement
61 Shaker sect's founder
62 Sid Ceasar's cohort
63 South African golfer Ernie
64 Bamboozled
65 Full of self-pity

DOWN
1 Scand. country
2 Brink
3 Liveliness
4 Yemeni or Saudi
5 Org. of Webb and Inkster
6 Brings to fruition
7 Cider-sweet woman?
8 Type of reaction?
9 King topper
10 Buttons of film
11 Fated
12 Sharp tastes
13 Peruvian range
15 Dove or Rudner
20 Swell
21 Fielder's gloves
22 A point ahead
23 Red-and-white sights
25 London lockup staff
26 Still intact
27 Litigate
28 Fish sauce
30 Principle of conduct
31 Food sampler
35 Far overweight
36 Stitch again
41 Quaff at the Queen's Head
45 Lacking freshness
46 One of the archangels
47 Wet forecast
51 Part of a wineglass
52 Fast-food choice
54 Wife or week lead-in
55 Big bird Down Under
56 Republican letters
57 Grow old
58 Swabby's stick
59 Stolen diamonds
60 Turndown vote

Friday's Puzzle Solved

S	C	A	L	P	■	C	L	A	Y	■	S	O	F	T
C	O	W	E	R	■	H	A	L	O	■	A	L	O	U
A	L	A	M	O	■	E	S	A	U	■	B	L	U	R
M	A	Y	■	M	I	S	S	I	N	G	L	I	N	K
■	■	G	L	O	S	S	■	■	G	R	E	E	T	S
C	L	A	U	S	E	■	W	I	S	E	■	■	■	■
L	I	M	N	■	R	E	A	D	■	G	A	L	A	S
O	L	E	G	■	E	A	G	L	E	■	L	O	C	O
P	O	S	E	R	■	S	E	E	D	■	O	S	H	A
■	■	■	■	E	W	E	S	■	W	I	N	T	E	R
A	N	S	W	E	R	■	■	B	I	N	G	O	■	■
G	O	N	E	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	■	U	F	O
A	B	E	L	■	G	O	A	L	■	E	A	T	I	N
P	E	A	L	■	H	U	L	K	■	A	D	O	R	E
E	L	K	S	■	T	R	E	S	■	R	E	N	E	S

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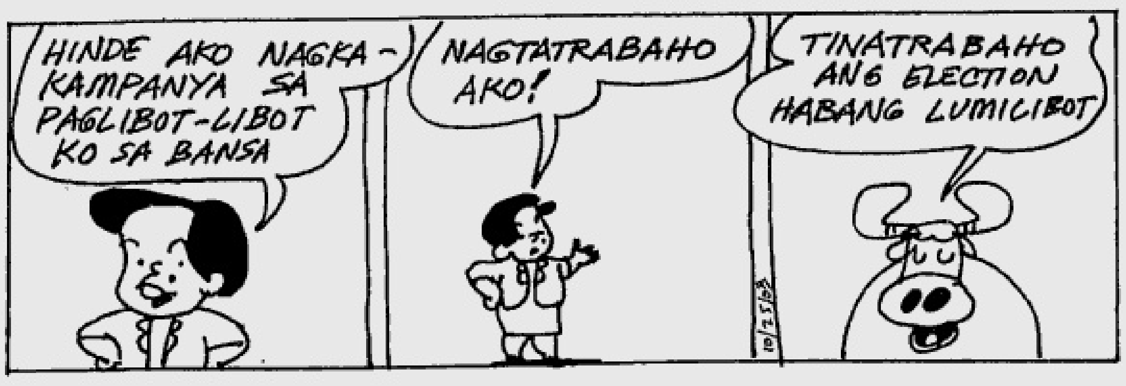
10/25/03

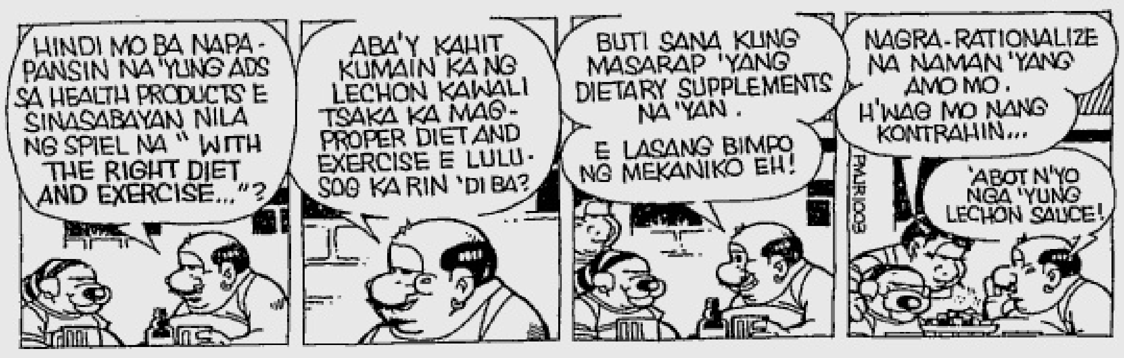
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


HINDE AKO NAGKA-KAMPANYA SA PAGLIBOT-LIBOT KO SA BANSA
NAGTATRABAHO AKO!
TINATRABAHO ANG ELECTION HABANG LUMILIBOT
10/25/03

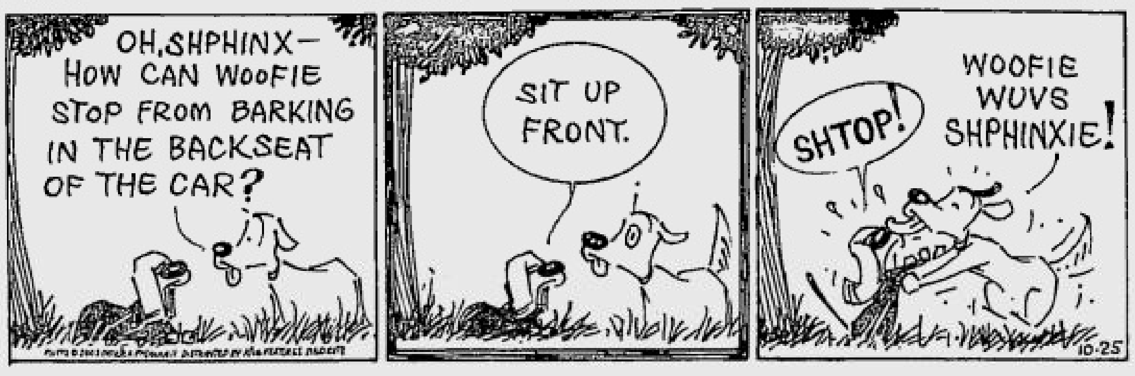
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


HINDI MO BA NAPAPANSIN NA 'YUNG ADS SA HEALTH PRODUCTS E SINASABAYAN NILA NG SPIEL NA " WITH THE RIGHT DIET AND EXERCISE..."?
ABA'Y KAHIT KUMAIN KA NG LECHON KAWALI TSAKA KA MAG-PROPER DIET AND EXERCISE E LULUSOG KA RIN 'DI BA?
BUTI SANA KUNG MASARAP 'YANG DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS NA 'YAN.
E LASANG BIMPO NG MEKANIKO EH!
NAGRA-RATIONALIZE NA NAMAN 'YANG AMO MO.
H'WAG MO NANG KONTRAHIN...
'ABOT N'YO NGA 'YUNG LECHON SAUCE!
PMJR 2003

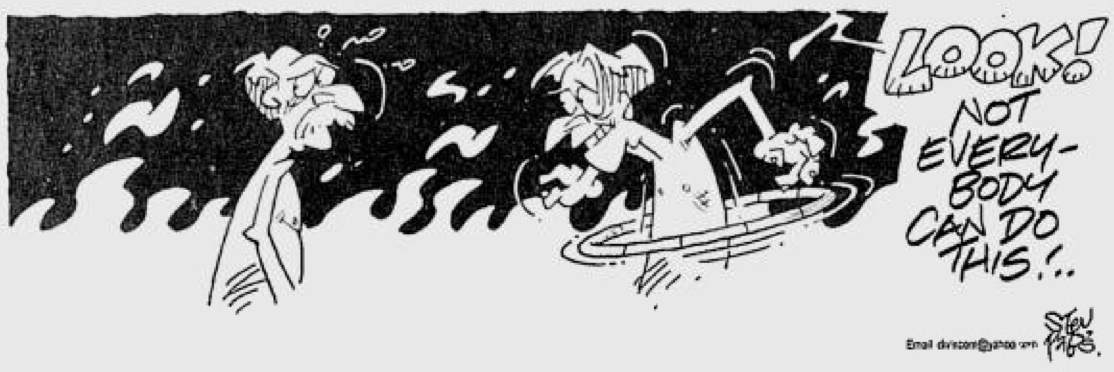
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


OH, SHPHINX— HOW CAN WOOFIE STOP FROM BARKING IN THE BACKSEAT OF THE CAR?
SIT UP FRONT.
SHTOP!
WOOFIE WUVS SHPHINXIE!
10·25

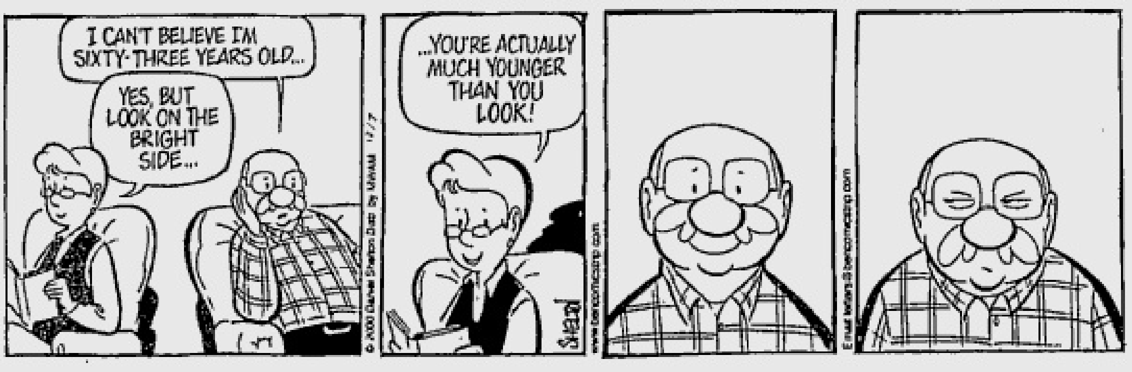
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


LOOK! NOT EVERY-BODY CAN DO THIS!..
STEV PABS

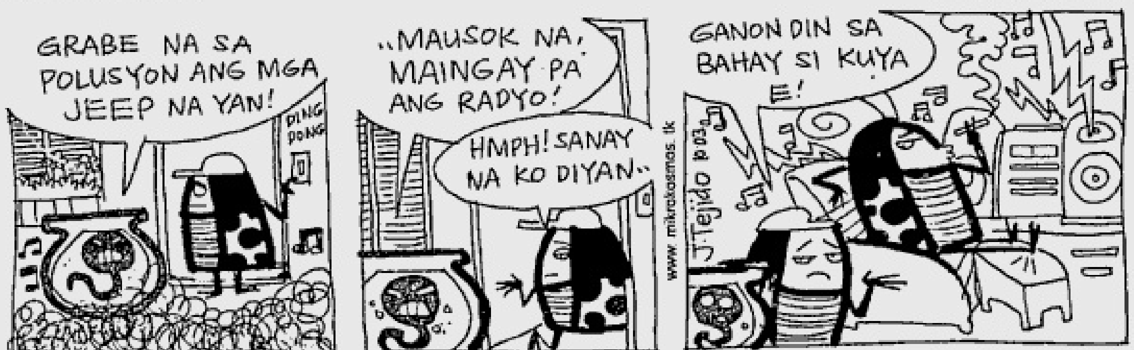
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SIXTY-THREE YEARS OLD...
YES, BUT LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE...
...YOU'RE ACTUALLY MUCH YOUNGER THAN YOU LOOK!
Shelton

MIKROKOSMOS

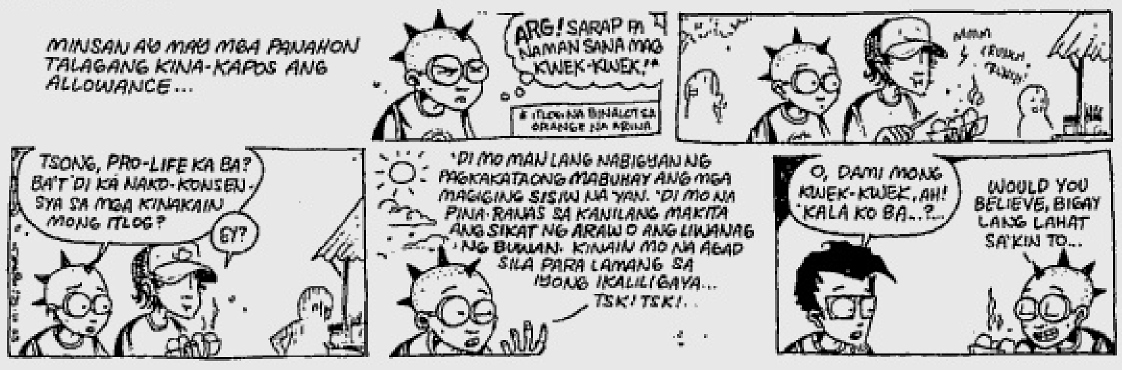
BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


GRABE NA SA POLUSYON ANG MGA JEEP NA YAN!
DING DONG
..MAUSOK NA, MAINGAY PA ANG RADYO!
HMPH! SANAY NA KO DIYAN..
GANON DIN SA BAHAY SI KUYA E!
J.Tejido 10·03
www.mikrokosmos.tk

Visit the Mikrokosmos Art Exhibit at Papemelroti Cafe, 91 Roces Ave., QC - Extended until End of Oct!

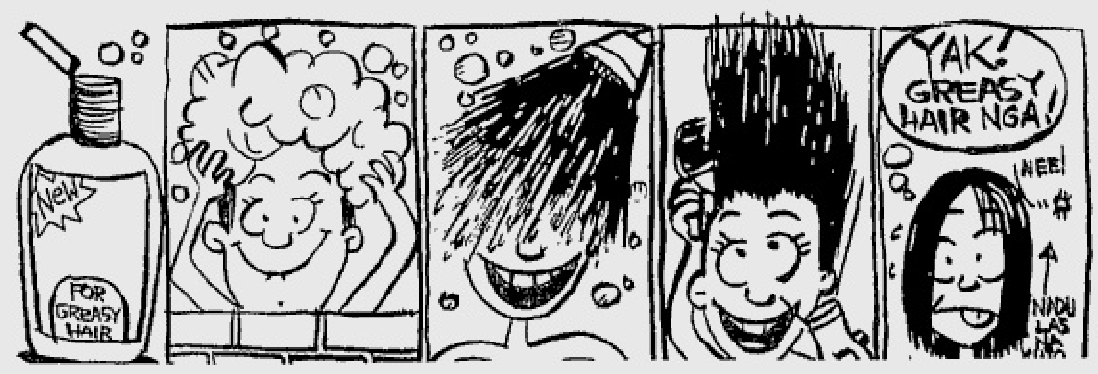
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


MINSAN AY MAY MGA PANAHON TALAGANG KINA-KAPOS ANG ALLOWANCE...
ARG! SARAP PA NAMAN SANA MAG KWEK-KWEK!*
* ITLOG NA BINALOT SA ORANGE NA HARINA
TSONG, PRO-LIFE KA BA? BA'T DI KA NAKO-KONSENSYA SA MGA KINAKAIN MONG ITLOG?
EY?
'DI MO MAN LANG NABIGYAN NG PAGKAKATAONG MABUHAY ANG MGA MAGIGING SISIW NA YAN. 'DI MO NA PINA-RANAS SA KANILANG MAKITA ANG SIKAT NG ARAW O ANG LIWANAG NG BUWAN. KINAIN MO NA AGAD SILA PARA LAMANG SA IYONG IKALILIGAYA... TSK! TSK!..
O, DAMI MONG KWEK-KWEK, AH! 'KALA KO BA..?..
WOULD YOU BELIEVE, BIGAY LANG LAHAT SA'KIN TO...

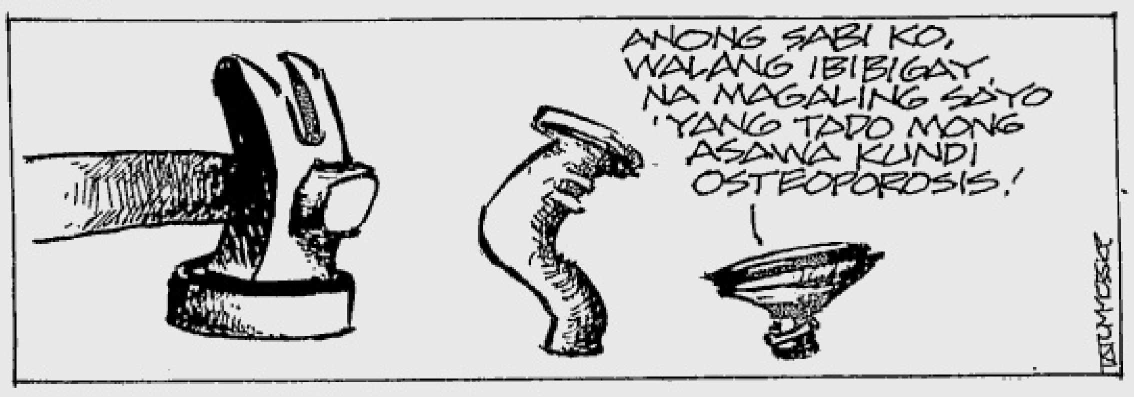
FURRY LOGIC

BY SUZIE AND CALVIN


NEW
FOR GREASY HAIR
YAK! GREASY HAIR NGA!
NEE!
#
NADULAS NA

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


ANONG SABI KO, WALANG IBIBIGAY NA MAGALING SA'YO 'YANG TADO MONG ASAWA KUNDI OSTEOPOROSIS!
TATUM/PAPU

US First Lady Laura Bush (third from left) arrived ahead of her husband.

Bush at Congress

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

US President George W. Bush arrived in the Philippines last Oct. 18. I was excited to receive an invitation from Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. and his wife Gina to witness Bush's speech at the Philippine Congress.

Vehicles

At 2 p.m., as I drove through Edsa, nary a bus was on the road. On Commonwealth ave., there were roadblocks and uniformed policemen who checked out vehicles before they were allowed inside the Batasan area. There were protesters with banners screaming anti-American and anti-Bush slogans, mostly written in red.

I stayed at the second gallery where most photographers were stationed.

Full view

I had a full view of the house. Rep. Liza Masa wore a protest slogan on her *alampay*. Her group with Rep. Satur Ocampo walked out as Bush began his speech.

US First Lady Laura Bush, accompanied by Gina de Venecia, Mila Drilon and Condoleeza Rice, came ahead of President Bush.

When Bush arrived, everybody got excited and welcomed the world's most powerful leader. He was applauded 28 times and was given a standing ovation at the end of his brief speech.

Powerful lenses

I watched foreign photographers in the team of President Bush walk quietly doing their jobs with powerful lenses.

At the lobby, senators, congressmen, veterans, cabinet secretaries and guests were animatedly greeting one another. A group of Fil-Ams donned Uncle Sam hats and waved miniature US flags. There were veterans reminiscing. Very visible were the sisters Nicolas—Loida N. Lewis and Mely, who were all smiles.

PRESIDENT BUSH. Applauded 28 times.

Lobby

Senators Greg Honasan and Ed Angara happily chatted away. Expeditions and Pajeros start to drive through the lobby to fetch their owners.

It was already dark when I drove back through Commonwealth ave. Protesters, their banners lowered, were walking on one side of the street. Traffic was again very bad.

* * *

Mandy Navasero does product and people photography for advertisers, manufacturers and exporters. Call 522-1905, 522-5189 or 0916 706-0130.

MAYOR Sonny Belmonte with some Fil-Ams.

Documentary . . .

From page D4

"Homebound" will have a premiere at the International Conference on OFW, Savings Remittance and Economic Potential: A Challenge to Governance, Partnerships and Development in Tagbilaran, Bohol at 7 p.m. on Oct. 28.

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horoscope

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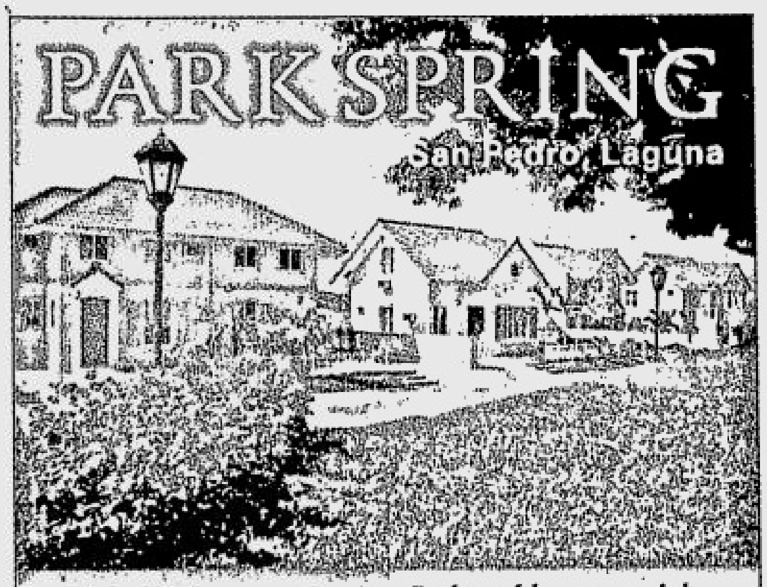

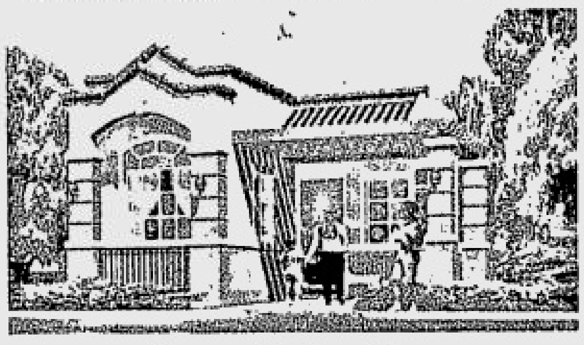

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2735 series 2003.

'Riot Act' showcases a quieter and more mature Pearl Jam

By Noelani Torre

IN the early '90s, we were too young to fully appreciate Pearl Jam and other grunge rock revolutionaries like Nirvana, Alice in Chains and Soundgarden when they burst onto the scene. By the time we *were* old enough, the grunge explosion had died out (literally, in the case of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain) and the Pearl Jam monument turned out to have clay mixed in along with the gold.

PEARL JAM. Spawned dozens of imitators.

Classic songs

Of course, that didn't stop us from appreciating their now-classic songs, like "Even Flow," "Jeremy," Daughter," "Alive" and "Black." Angst-ridden, dominated by Eddie Vedder's famed ultra-cool growl and laden with rock and roll guitar riffs, they were songs you could yell along with and think about at the same time.

Despite flak from "purist" Cobain and critiques of their furrow-browed attitude, Pearl Jam proved to be so influential that they spawned dozens of lesser imitators who adopted Vedder's low, haunting vocal style and capitalized on the Pearl Jam sound (does Creed ring any bells?) and style.

With other bands developing their sound, it's not surprising that the originals themselves have sometimes sounded lost and patchy over the years. But unlike Nirvana, Alice in Chains and Soundgarden, Pearl Jam is still here. And the release of their seventh album, "Riot Act" (Epic), disproves numerous critical assumptions of their supposed fall to obscurity.

It's been 10 years since the phenomenal, Seattle-based grunge movement, and Pearl Jam is the last band standing. And though the spotlight may not be trained on them, they're content to remain by its edges, confident in the undeniable fact that they have talent, and that they have enough set aside from their idol days to weather current low sales.

The band has never been fame-seeking, even in its earlier, more grandiloquent days. With "Riot Act," they're moving even farther away from their more popular arena-rock sound, into distinctively adult territory—a move that hasn't exactly proven fashionable, sales-wise. *(To be concluded)*

Documentary on Pinoy migrants to be screened

By Rica Arevalo

"HOMEBOUND" is a documentary, written and directed by Avic Ilagan, about the migrant workers' reintegration program.

Avic says, "I feel making this documentary will help in the advocacy for the next generation of migrants who are preparing for their return back home. It will help them make better choices and alternatives. It will also show the strength and role of migrants in shaping economic and social values."

Domestic helpers

We meet Zeta, Nora and Virgenia, all domestic helpers in Hong Kong—and Bien, a migrant organizer.

Virgenia tells how she arrived at the HK airport—she waited for three hours and was very confused. "*Pa-trolley-trolley lang ako. Hindi ako marunong gumamit ng telepono. May lumapit na Pilipina at tinanong kung kumain na 'ko. Binigyan nya ako ng pera. 'Pwede ka nang mag-* McDonalds.' *Hindi rin ako kumain dahil hindi ko alam kung paano umorder.*"

Nora only finished Grade 6 but can speak English fluently. She has accepted her fate as a spinster. She heads the Diocesan Center Pastoral Friday Group of Savers, and has invested her money in a piggery business. Upon her return to the country, she points out, "*May inaasahan na ako.*"

Zeta, the migrant returnee, is a farm manager at a business enterprise zone being built in Dalwangan, Bukidnon.

They are called the 3-D Migrants—migrants in dirty, dangerous and disdained jobs.

Savings group

The Asian Migrant Center organizes these workers by teaching them to put up a savings group or a business, so that when they come home, they become major decision-makers, not only within their families but also within the communities they belong to—by being economic investors in their own country.

When Avic was shooting in Hong Kong, the SARS epidemic was raging, and the US-led war against Iraq had just started. She shares, "My greatest realization is that *hindi sila* (OFWs) *mangmang*, and most of them made an educated decision when they decided to work as domestic workers. Their willingness to be agents of change is commendable."

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Heny Sison

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Nov. 3 (Monday) 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Classroom A) BASIC CAKES & ICINGS FOR BEGINNERS by: Heny Sison, P1,500 *Butter Cake with Butter Icing, Moist Chocolate Cake with Fudge Icing, Mocha Cake with No-Melt Butter Icing, Lemon Chiffon Cake with Boiled Icing & Sponge Cake w/ Whipped Cream Icing

Nov. 3 (Monday) 2:30 -5:30 p.m. (Classroom A) LIQUEUR CAKES by: Heny Sison, P1,500 *Meyer Lemon Pound Cake, Whiskey Cake, Espresso Cake w/Hot Kahlua Syrup, Amaretto Cake, Grand Marnier Cake & Cointreau Cake

Nov. 3 (Monday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Classroom B) PIZZA CLASS WORKSHOP by: Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli, P2,500 Master Pizzaiolo & Barista, Food Consultant to various Italian restaurants all over Metro Manila, graduated Culinary Institute of Milan, Italy. *In this class you will learn the history, concept & design of pizza making. Learn how to make pizza dough, tomato base sauce, white sauce base, preparation, setting up of a pizza counter, knowing of the ingredients and toppings. **Recipes:** Margherita, Napoli Classica, 4 Formaggi, Pizza Vegetariana, La Gibiana, Piccantina, 4 Stagioni, Calzone & Frutti di Mare. **Demonstration w/student participation.**

Nov. 4 (Tuesday) 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Classroom A) COFFEE! COFFEE! COFFEE! P1,500 by: Chef Aileen Anastacio, Chef / Food Consultant, owner of C'est Si Bon and Goodies N' Sweet Bakeshop, Dean's List graduate of culinary at the California Culinary Academy. *If you are planning to open a coffee shop this course is for you. Learn the four fundamentals of coffee brewing, home espresso, guide to steaming & foaming. **Recipes:** Caffé Latte, Caffé Mocha, Caffé Americano, Cappuccino, Espresso Macchiato & Espresso Con Panna. Make fun toppings and garnishes and master the art of coffee making.

Nov. 4 (Tuesday) 1:30 -4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) DESSERT COFFEES by: Chef Aileen Anastacio, P1,200 *Learn how to make a variety of iced coffee drinks; a whole new category of ways to enjoy espresso; **Recipes:** Almond Coffee Freeze, Icy Rum Coffee Cream, Toffee Coffee, Mudslide Malt and more!

Nov. 5 (Wednesday) 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) HOMEMADE SAUSAGES, CONDIMENTS & MARINADES WORKSHOP P2,500 by: Chef Jane Paredes, Food Consultant, co-owner of Simply Desserts, trained at the Culinary Institute of America Hyde Park, New York & at the Peter Kump's New York Cooking School. *Discover ways to transform meat, poultry & seafood into Profitable menu items. **Sausages:** Chorizo Bilbao, Longanisa Ilongga, Italian Sausage, Seafood Sausage & Mexican Sausage; **Condiments:** Honey-Mustard Sauce, Sweet Pickles Chips & Atchara; **Marinade:** Homemade Tapa, Homemade Bulgogi & Tocino; **Dishes:** Sausage, Sauerkraut & Potato Casserole & Country Style Pork & Beans

Nov. 8 (Saturday) 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) BASIC FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS by: Glenn Remorca, P 2,500 *Floral designer. Learn the theories, styles, trends, techniques, sourcing, flower care & maintenance, basic forms, arrangements & flower for weddings.

Nov. 10 (Monday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. (Classroom A) MOMMY LILY'S SECRET RECIPES by: Lily Banzon, P1,700 *Learn heirloom recipes to be demonstrated by Heny's Mom. **Recipes:** Adobong Alimango, Embutido, Asadong Dila ng Baka, Pastel & Pansit Palabok.

Nov. 10 (Monday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classroom B) BROWNIE WORKSHOP by: Chef Jill Sandique, P2,500 Food consultant & food stylist, Blue Ribbon graduate of Peter Kump's New York Cooking School. *Fudgy Brownies, Chocolate Chip Peanut Butter Blondies, Chocolate Chip Walnut Bars, Cappuccino Brownies, Butterscotch Brownies, Marbled Cream Cheese Brownies, Fruit & Nut Bars & White Chocolate Brownies,

Nov. 11 (Tuesday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) BURGERS & STEAKS by: Chef Jane Paredes, P2,000 *Burgers: Italian Burger, Beef Tex Mex Burger, Chicken Burger & Traditional Beef Burger.
Steaks: Rib-eye, Tenderloin & T-Bone.
Sauces: Bercy, Green Peppercorn Sauce & Café de Paris
Sidings: Potato Gratin & Potato Puree

Nov. 15 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Classroom A) SECRETS NO MORE! (My most requested recipes!) P 3,000 *Decadent Chocolate Cake w/Caramel Sauce, Lemon Torte, Ensaymada, Almond Sanzrival, Strawberry Shortcake & Ube Cake

Nov. 17 (Monday) 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Classroom A) DRESSING UP YOUR TABLE FOR THE HOLIDAYS by: Glenn Remorca P 3,000 *Learn how to prepare & make unique decors for your Christmas table like Christmas logs, candles & pine cones; Filipiniana Christmas and more! **Demonstration with hands-on production.**

Nov. 17 (Monday) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Classroom B) PANINI, BRUSCHETTE E FRITTATE by: Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli, P 2,500 *Learn how to make Italian Style sandwiches w/ bread-based Focaccia, Ciabatta & Pane Rustico w/fabulous fillings; Bruschetta - rustic grilled bread topped w/surprising array of ingredients & frittata placed in between slices of bread. Recipes: Freddi Linea Simplice, Panini Caldi con Verdure (Vegetables), Cotoletta (Veal, Chicken & Pork) w/ Frittate w/Arugula, Shrimps & Formaggi and more!

Nov. 18 (Tuesday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) THE BEST OF FILIPINO COOKING by: Jane Paredes, P 1,700, *Chicken Galantina, Baked Mussels w/Garlic Cheese Topping, Crispy Pata, Crispy Kangkong, Fresh Lumpia with Homemade Wrapper & Bouillabaisse (Seafood Stew)

Nov. 19 (Wednesday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classrom A) ENTERTAINING MEALS by: Chef Jill Sandique, P 1,700 *Grilled Baby Back Ribs w/ Homemade Barbecue Sauce, Macaroni & Cheese, Onion Rings, Corndogs & Cheese & Garlic Bread

Nov. 20 (Thursday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classrom A) CHEESECAKE WORKSHOP by: Chef Jill Sandique, P 2,000 *No Frills Cheesecake, New York Cheesecake, Alsatian Cheesecake, Italian Ricotta Cheesecake, Triple Chocolate Cheesecake & Easy Oreo Cheesecake

Nov. 21-22 (Friday-Saturday) 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) CAKE DECORATING 2 by: Heny Sison, P 4,000 *Add amazing new skills to your cake decorating-the world of icing flowers, distinctive borders, flower sprays & specialty flowers. As a final project you will decorate a basketweave cake filled w/ cascading flowers. **Full participation.**

Nov. 24 (Monday) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (Classroom A) BREAD BAKING WORKSHOP by: Chef Jill Sandique, P 2,500 *Egg Pan de Sal, Brioche, Anadama Bread, Cinnamon Coffee Cake, Multigrain Bread, Pullman, American Black and Braided Loaf.

Nov. 27 (Thursday) 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. (Classroom A) SIOPAO & MAMI WORKSHOP by: Chef Katherine Sion, restaurateur, P2,500 *(Ding Hao Restaurant), caterer and an expert in Chinese Cuisine. Siopao: Bola-Bola, Asado and Chicken Bola-Bola Special, Chinese Pork Asado and Beef Mami

Nov. 27 (Thursday) 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Classroom B) FAVORITE PASTA DISHES by: Chef Jill Sandique, P 1,700 *Learn how to cook your favorite pasta dishes the easy way. Sauces to be taught in the class are the ff: Puttanesca, Carbonara, Pomodoro, Alfredo, Bolognese & Primavera plus bonus recipes.

Nov. 28 (Friday) 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Classroom A) COOKIES FOR GIVING by: Heny Sison, P 1,500 *Springerle, Rugelach, Melting Moments, Macadamia Blondies w/Caramel Glaze, Christmas Cantuccini & Snickerdoodles

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SATURDAY *Special*

Dakota and Hilary upstage other young talents

FANNING (left) and Duff are generating a lot of excitement this year.

By Nestor U. Torre

TWO young stars are generating a lot of excitement on the entertainment scene this year. Let's get to know them, and find out what makes them tick—and click:

Challenging role

Dakota Fanning is the youngest actor to be nominated for a Screen Actors Guild award (for her performance in "I Am Sam," opposite Sean Penn). In her latest film, "Uptown Girls," she plays the challenging role of Ray, the daughter of a music executive who is too busy with her hectic, high-powered career to take care of her child.

Thus, Ray is turned over to a series of nannies, and ends up a psychological mess. She is emotionally distant from her mother and lacks stability. To compensate, she tries to control everything—including her newest nanny, Molly, played by Brittany Murphy.

Since Ray is obsessed with germs and lives her life as perfectly as possible, Molly has a hard time taking care of her. What makes things worse is that Molly has problems of her own: she's never worked a day in her life and used to be the toast of New York's social scene, but she now has to make her own money, and this freaks her out.

Meeting of minds

Will she and Ray ever come to a meeting of minds and hearts? Since "Uptown Girls" is a comedy, you can bet that it'll have a happy ending—and the fun part is how they'll get there!

Dakota was born in 1994. At a very young age, she showed an interest in performing, and joined a playhouse. Soon after, she did a commercial for Tide, and acted on "ER" when she was only six.

She got her first role in a feature film in the year 2000, as a mentally-handicapped man's daughter in "I Am Sam," and her performance was universally praised by reviewers.

Dakota said she could relate to her role in the movie because she has an aunt who is mentally challenged. Asked how she was able to cry on cue for the camera, she replied that she thought of her pet goldfish, which had recently died.

After her role in "I Am Sam," Dakota acted in the teen film "Tomcats," "Trapped," "Sweet Home Alabama," "24 Hours" and "Hansel and Gretel."

Biggest showcase

On TV, her biggest showcase was the sci-fi mini-series, "Taken," as narrator of all 10 episodes, and also in the pivotal role of the part-alien, part-human child, Allie Keys.

Dakota has two new movies lined up next year: "The Cat in the Hat" and "Man on Fire." Not bad for a star who's only nine years old!

For her part, teen sensation Hilary Duff has become a music, film and television phenomenon due to her string of hits that began with her starring role in the popular TV show, "Lizzie McGuire."

DAKOTA/F2

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OCTOBER 25 SATURDAY

Martin Nievera chases his dream

By Jocelyn Valle

"I'M a big fan of sunsets," smiles Martin Nievera. "I've been watching them since I was a child. It inspires me. Some say that sunrise is nicer because it's the beginning of the day, but sunset is the beginning of the night."

Big hit

This is why Martin has recorded a version of Boyz II Men's "Visions of a Sunset" in his latest CD, "Chasing Time II." "It wasn't a big hit but I liked it the first time it came out," he relates.

The carrier single, "Hanggang Ngayon," however, is an original composition by Ned Esguerra. The video features sexy star Andrea del Rosario as Martin's leading lady.

"Chasing Time II" caps Martin's series of celebrations for his 21st year in show business. Does he believe in quitting while he's ahead of the game? "Yes—but in show biz, you don't know when you're ahead," he explains. "One day, you think you're it; the next day, you're not. So you try to be it again."

He cites an enlightening experience with Kenny Loggins, who has been his friend since the American singer promoted his first concert in the country on Martin's old show on Channel 7.

"We were in a car and I was driving," Martin recalls. "He asked me, 'Martin, what do you want?' I told him, 'I want what you have.'

Constant question

"'What is that?,' he asked again. I said, 'I want my music to be heard in other parts of the world. I want them to love me for my music.' Then, he asked, 'And then what?' That has since become my constant question: What am I going to do next? God, I hope it doesn't end."

Martin has always been vocal about his desire to conquer the international music scene. Last year, he headlined a series of shows at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas. Starting this December, he'll be back there for two months to perform nightly from Wednesday to Sunday. He'll be spending both Christmas and Valentine's Day there.

NIEVERA. Wants to reinvent the music scene.

Bigger doors

"I hope this can open bigger doors," Martin says, crossing his fingers. "At the very least, it could become a yearly thing. But I want something bigger. I want to sing in a showroom that's built just for me!"

He adds, "We're trying to merge Asian and American artists. We need to help each other. Everybody now knows that Asia is the biggest market."

Martin is sad that his constant travels to the United States keep him from spending time with sons Robin and Ram, who stay with their mother, Pops Fernandez.

"But if I don't do this now, I'll regret it. You don't know when the opportunity will come again, and I'm not getting younger. I want to contribute something before I finally say goodbye. I want to do what Stevie Wonder, Quincy Jones and Burt Bacharach have done. They reinvented the music scene."

AM/FM

Engaging exchanges after midnight

By Rito P. Asilo

FOR night owls and insomniacs who turn to radio for a dose of entertainment (or amusement) after midnight, dzMM's "Simply Jenny" (12 midnight-2 a.m., 630 kHz on the AM band), hosted by Jenny Almazan, is a breath of fresh air.

Naughty prattle

For one, it veers away from the naughty prattle of bored radio hosts assigned to enliven the airwaves on their station's graveyard shift.

Instead of the usual heart-wrenching and ear-popping '70s jukebox tunes like "Mr. Blue" or "I Can't Stop Loving You" that are staples on AM, you get a rousing version of Astrud Gilberto's "Call Me."

Later in the show, Parokya ni Edgar's "Mr. Suwabe" blares and momentarily breaks the earnest discussion. The group's affinity to camp, amusing lyrics and gleeful energy neutralizes the doom-and-gloom situations discussed on-air.

Unlike most call-and-greet shows, Almazan's program observes specific themes for certain days—it was "Family Thursday" when we tuned in. But the topic discussed was far from being lightweight: child abuse. The succeeding discussion delved more into solutions than the schmaltzy details you usually find in these stories.

Disturbing

Some of the stories were disturbing: A 12-year-old girl has been abused by an uncle since she was five, but neither her parents nor her grandmother (who was, ironically, close to the child) wanted to bring the matter to court; a poor, mentally-unstable girl has been raped by the neighborhood drunk, but her parents didn't want the hassle and financial burden involved if they sought help from authorities, etc.

Before we dozed off, we heard people voice out their concerns to "Bantay Bata" social worker Evelyn Valencia about neighbors who may be involved in child abuse. Of course, they said they wanted to help, but that they didn't want to get "entangled" in the fray. As one caller explained, "*Baka sabihan akong pakialamero.*"

Affable host

After lengthy and fevered discussions on the show's theme for the day, the affable host moved on to other topics that she discussed with her listeners, like "What would you do if your boss invited you to dinner? How do you say no? Do you accept the invitation?" And the verbal free-for-all was as lively and entertaining as it was amusing.

The various points of view were engaging, to say the least. Some were cerebral, interesting, funny and sometimes not-so-bright—which is what makes radio an all-encompassing medium: It isn't just for the popular, the articulate and the beautiful!

'DEE'S DAY' GOES TO TARLAC CITY

RPN'S "Dee's Day" recently went to Tarlac City for an episode on the Congressional Spouses Foundation Inc.'s groundbreaking ceremonies for a Regional Center for Children. From left: Speaker Joe de Venecia and his wife Gina, president of CSFI, Rep. Noynoy Aquino, show host Deedee M. Siytangco and co-host, Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman. "Dee's Day" is aired every Thursday on RPN-9 at 12:30 p.m.

Affordable, great-tasting steaks

WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

AS we get older, we become more picky when it comes to food. I am a chocoholic, but I only indulge in extra-delicious chocolates. I also love steaks, but I try to stay away from meat except when it is also exceptionally good.

Diverted

When I'm in San Francisco, it is almost impossible for me not to dine at the House of Prime Rib! There are a handful of other places in the Bay area which claim to have good steaks—like Angus Restaurant, Charlie Brown's, Gulliver's and a few others. But I have never dined in those places because I have always been diverted to The House of Prime Rib.

In Manila, Prince Albert at the Hotel Intercontinental, Katre in Morato and most recently, Gulliver's, a new steak place in Makati, have my stamp of exemption. I heard about this place from my sister Nina and from friends Chiqui and Randy Villanueva.

The franchise of Gulliver's of San Francisco opened over a year ago in Makati. Its main feature is the USDA Choice Roast Prime Rib of Beef. I recently had dinner there with my brother Bd and a friend, Paxy. We all ordered the Roast Prime Rib. They come in various cuts—Paxy got the English cut, Bd the Gulliver's. Bd's prime rib was smaller than mine, while Paxy's had three thin slices, all with the same sidings and sauce.

Largest cut

I settled for the largest cut. The steak was tender, tasty and delicious. It came with sidings of creamed spinach, mashed potatoes and Yorkshire pudding. It was exceptional, but the sidings needed some work. The appetizer was nothing great.

The Prime Rib, being the main feature, was worth the visit, though. I poured the *au jus* on the huge cut and just sliced away at one of the best steaks I've had in Manila. Delicious!

The price was affordable, considering that the meat is of the second best quality in America (USDA Prime Rib is the best—hard to find, though).

I also love the ambiance of the place. It looks like an old English pub—it's a bit dark, and sets the right mood for a nice, cozy Prime Rib dinner.

So, if you're looking for a great steak meal, check out Gulliver's, on the 10th floor of the Great Eastern Hotel (Aberdeen Court) on Makati ave. Call 896-7475, 898-2888.

Happy eating!

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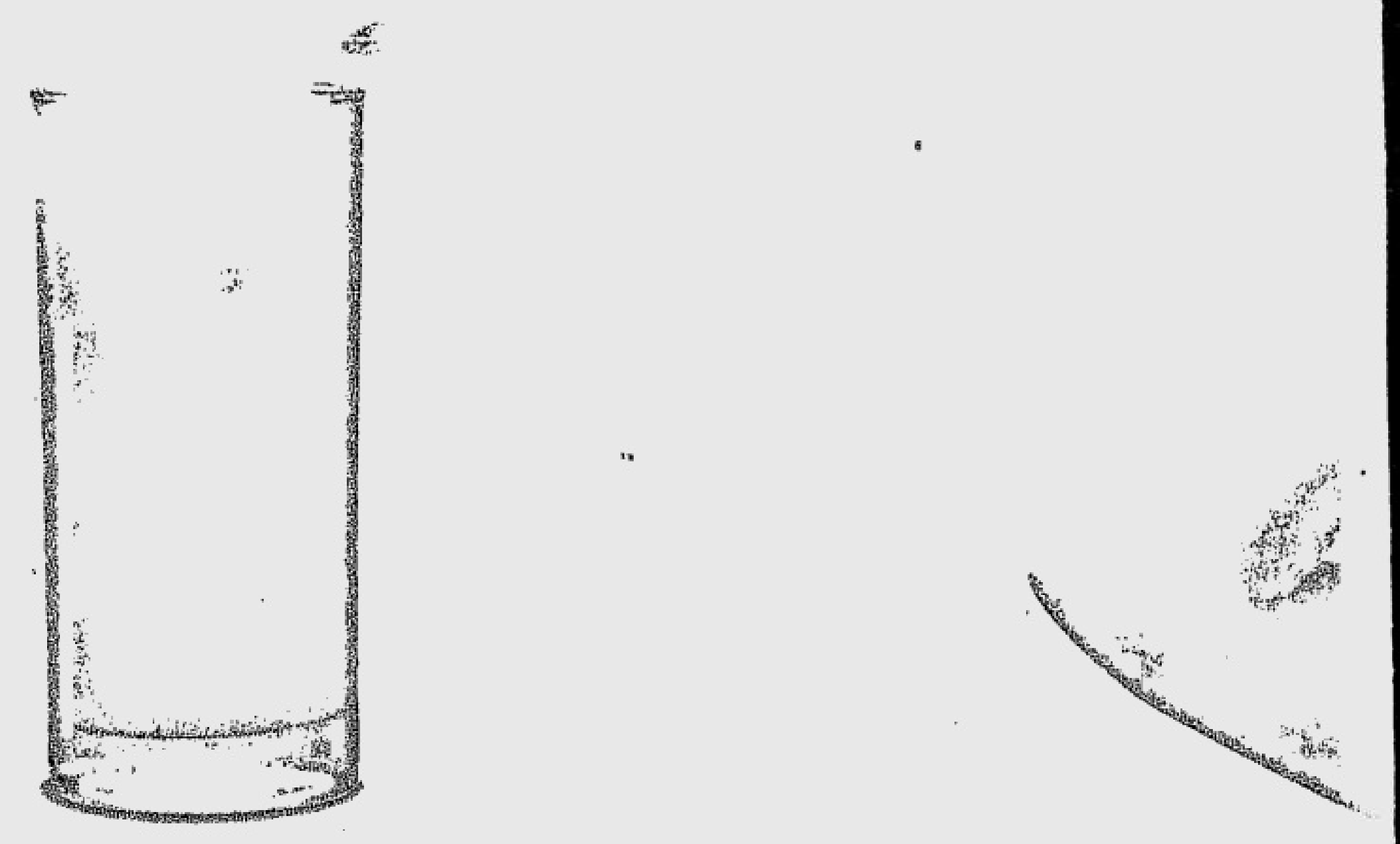

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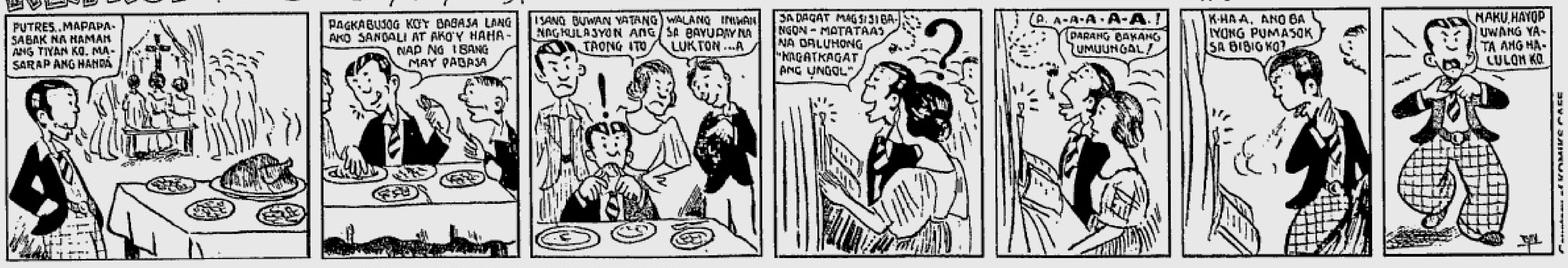
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Madcap Italian adventure with the fabulous Elvira recalled

By Nestor U. Torre

EARLIER this month, I spent a week in Italy, on the last leg of a pilgrimage culminating in our group's witnessing the beatification of Mother Teresa at the Vatican.

Golden time

While I profited spiritually from visiting such places as Assisi, Cascia, Florence, San Giminiano, Lanciano, Viterbo and Rome, the trip also reminded me of the golden time, many years ago, when I "did" Italy with my friend and TV colleague, Elvira Manahan.

MANAHAN. Bemusingly idiosyncratic vacation from the very start.

That Italian adventure with the fabulous "Lvira" of TV fame and "high society" acclaim was bemusingly idiosyncratic from the very start. Like, we never planned to go on a vacation for two to Italy in the first place—our original destination of choice was the south of France!

In fact, Elvira even enrolled the two of us in a quickie class in conversational French. That course quickly became even quickie-r when, quite true to form, Elvira started telling our teacher how to do his job better. *Mon Dieu!* That would never do!—so we found ourselves *ipso facto* expelled on our testy little bottoms, *tout de suite!*

Entourage of one

Expectedly, that nixed France as a travel destination for Elvira and her small entourage of one (*moi*), so she decided to "do" Italy instead—even without Italian lessons.

We would wing it, why not? After all, I had gotten a perfect grade in Latin at the Ateneo (*sa probinsiya*), and Elvira could prattle in Spanish as perkily as a parrot from Sevilla, and Spanish is a kissing linguistic cousin to Italian, so we were All Set!

—Uh, not quite. For one thing, there was the problem of my plane fare. While I could have scraped up enough money to pay for it, I didn't want to, because it would have meant breaking my personal "tradition" of not spending for my international travels, all of which had previously been funded by scholarships, grants, journalistic travel assignments, etc.

It was an unusual record that I didn't want to break, and Elvira respected my proud resolve, quirky though it may have been, so she thought long and hard for a solution to my little problem.

True to form, the solution she arrived at was inspired: She learned that I had written the script for a PAL show in the States that her son Johnny had directed, and that I was getting paid with a plane ticket to Tokyo.

Free trip

Well, she called up a friend who just happened to be a top PAL executive, and convinced him that it would be good for everybody's *karma* if my free trip could be stretched by "a few (thousand) miles," all the way to Rome!

Wonderful. We were all set!—Or, so we thought. As our PAL plane zipped through the international skies, transforming continents into cozy little islands, the ELM and NUT traveling tandem was breezily flying high, without a care in the world—until we landed at the airport in Rome, where there was trouble aplenty.

As bad luck would have it, Filipino travelers that time were notorious for their TNT (*tago ng tago*) intentions, and even an obviously well-heeled jet-setter like Elvira wasn't spared the surly immigration officers' suspicion and disdain. Along with other holders of Philippine passports, we were herded off to one side for interrogation.

But bad luck never got the upper hand over Elvira for long. Happily for us, the Philippine ambassador to Italy just happened to be at the airport that day, and naturally he was Elvira's friend, so she called out to him and appraised him of our plight—and, before anyone could say "*Arrivederci, Roma*," we were liberated from tacky detention, on ambassadorial wings of freedom and diplomatic immunity!

(To be concluded)

Dakota . . .

From page F1

Hilary made her singing debut on her sitcom and came up with the platinum hit, "Lizzie McGuire Television Soundtrack."

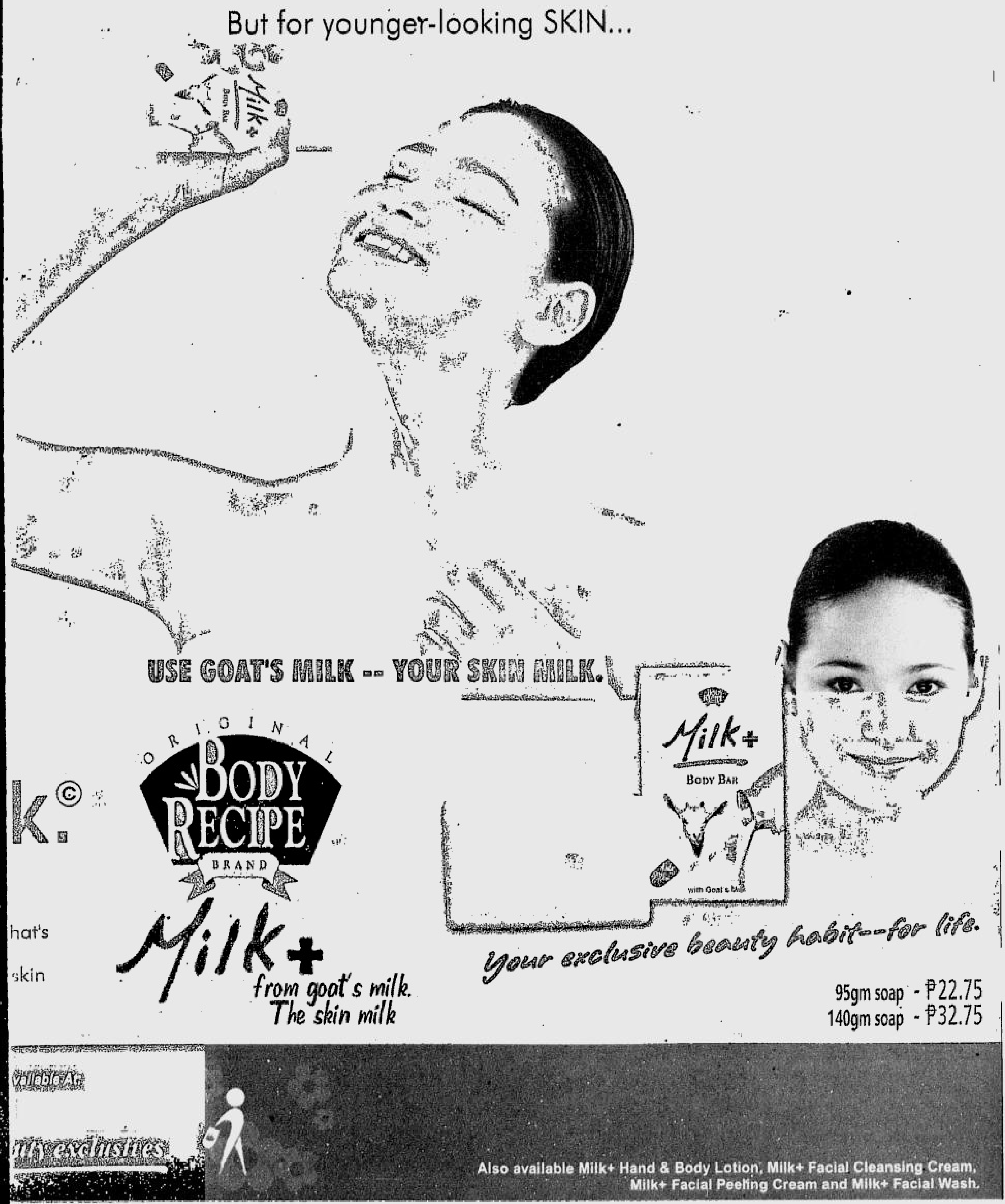
In her motion picture debut, Hilary co-starred with Frankie Muniz in the action-adventure hit, "Agent Cody Banks." Next came "The Lizzie McGuire Movie," where she both acted and sang (she played an American tourist mistaken for a big singing star).

Hilary's new album, "Metamorphosis," made its debut last August with impressive initial sales of 800,000 copies, pushing it up to No. 2 on the Billboard 200 chart. Its carrier single, "So Yesterday," has been even more successful, hitting the No. 1 spot.

Changing moods

The songs in "Metamorphosis" are described as projecting a "chameleon-like variety of changing moods"—from the romantic ballad, "Where Did I Go Right," to the hard-rocking "Little Voice," and from the tough-talking "Party Up" to the ultimate break-up song, "So Yesterday."

So, what has enabled Dakota and Hilary to rise above other young talents? Dakota's ace is her combination of sassiness and vulnerability. And Hilary scores with her "clean teen" projection, which has prompted parents to support her albums and TV-film starrers because they provide a welcome alternative to the overly sexy and kinky performance style of some other teen stars today.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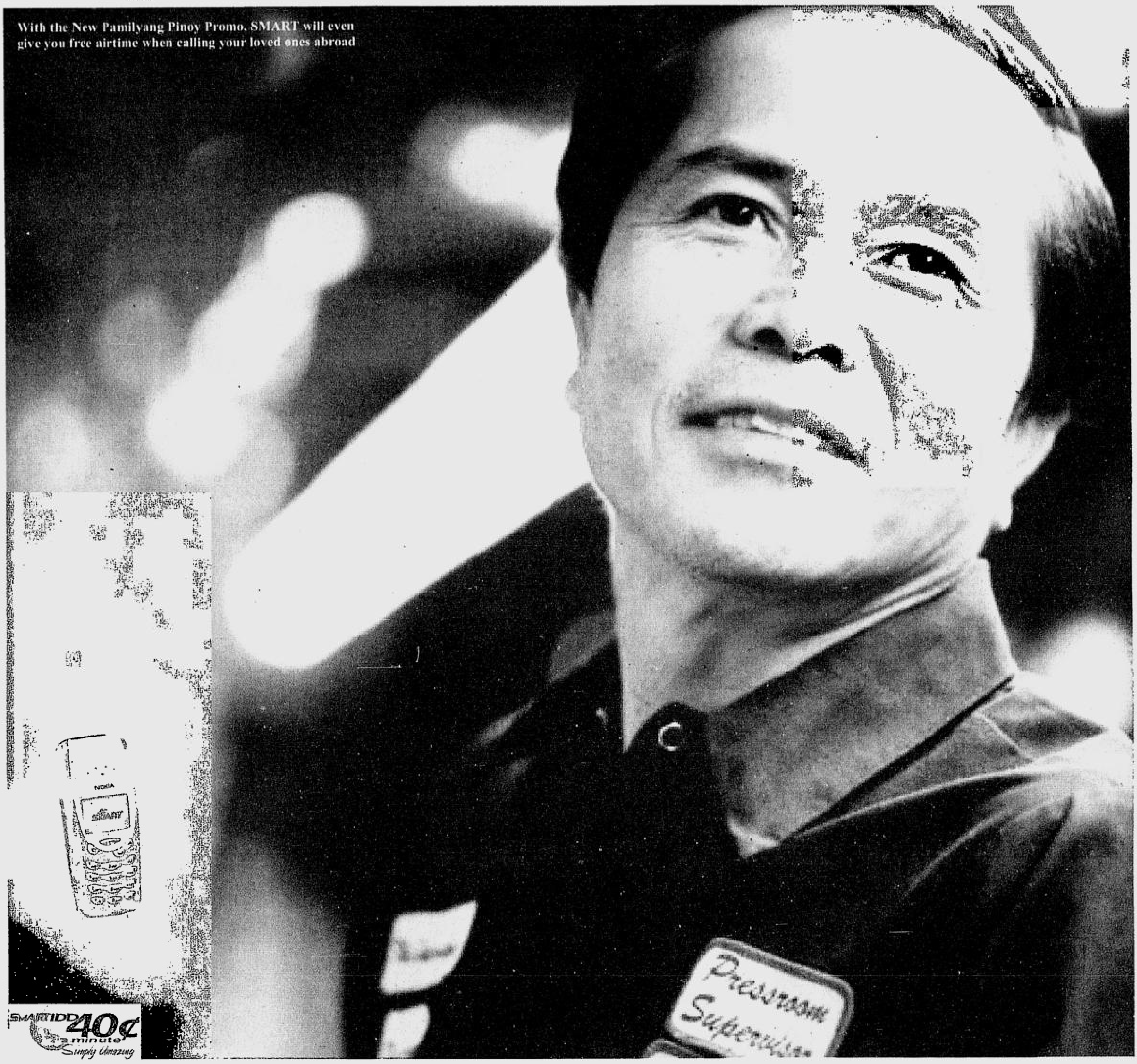
SMART IDD's offer to the Filipino Family

Calling Abroad Made Easier and Lighter on the Pocket



With the New Pamilyang Pinoy Promo, SMART will even give you free airtime when calling your loved ones abroad

As OFWs continue to represent our country as workers and professionals all over the world thousands of their relatives here in the Philippines have longed for their presence in one form or the other. Long-distance relationships are now a standard for family members who have been deprived of the company of their loved ones. It's very heartening to know that at least one company is doing it's best to keep the Filipino family together. SMART Communications, the Philippines' leading wireless network, has just introduced a new way to make calling abroad much easier and lighter on your pocket. With their new Pamilyang Pinoy promo SMART will actually pay you back for calling those loved ones we all miss so much. The more you talk, the more money you receive! How can this possibly happen? Read on and let SMART ease the longing and increase the talking.

SMART will be giving back a percentage of the hard-earned cash you've spent by returning a percentage back to you. All SMART Load subscribers (SMART Buddy, Talk n' Text, and SMART

Gold) are in luck as they will be eligible to avail of this special rebate offer. All you have to do is register your name via text (type REG <name>*<address>*<NA>*<NA> and send to 433) or see your nearest TSI or Customer Care representative. It's that easy. From there on SMART representatives will make sure you're rebate process will see you receive your rebates smoothly and accurately. For subscribers who use their IDD for at least ten minutes they will receive ten pesos. For twenty minutes – twenty pesos, and so on until 50 pesos. Subscribers who clock in 100 minutes will get a special bonus of 200 pesos! One can also check their IDD minutes and rebate by simply typing CHECK and sending it to 433 via text. For more information on registering yourself for this sensational rebate program call 888-1111 or *888 on your celfone.

In order to facilitate this program and help their subscribers understand the process and perks of this incredible program SMART will be holding road shows in a major town nearest you in the near future. To ensure that their subscribers are treated as the loyal and valuable bunch they are, they will be entertaining as well as informing subscribers in these shows. Young GMA-7 stars will be entertaining the crowds at each event, while participants will be availing of special Pamilyang Pinoy gifts as well as the being eligible for a special raffle that will see three lucky subscribers walk away with a new phone! How do you get these prizes? For the special prize just register for Pamilyang Pinoy at the site of the roadshow and your friendly TSI or Customer Care agent will give you your special gift. During the event a "Handog ng SMART IDD sa Pamilyang Pinoy" leaflets will be given out. This leaflet will contain very helpful and informative info detailing the promo. At the back of these leaflets will be a stub that you can fill out and drop in the drop box in order for you to be eligible for this special celfone raffle.

The schedule of Pamilyang Pinoy Roadshow: San Carlos City Gym – Oct. 18; Dagupan Plaza – Oct. 19; Lingayen de la Cruz Auditorium – Oct. 25; Alaminos Auditorium - Oct. 26; Tuguegarao Coliseum – Nov. 8; Ilagan Plaza – Nov. 9; Bauang Plaza - Nov. 15; san Fernando Plaza - Nov. 16; Vigan Plaza - Nov. 22; Bayombong Plaza - Nov. 29; Santiago City Coliseum - Nov. 30; Roxas City Plaza - Dec. 6; Cauayan City Plaza - Dec. 7; Urdaneta City Auditorium - Dec. 13; Agoo Civic Center - Dec. 14; La Trinidad Plaza - Dec. 20; and Baguio City Malcom Square on Dec. 21. Mark the date when this exciting roadshow will be at a town nearest you.

A truly innovative and thoughtful promo is being offered to SMART's valuable subscribers. As well as the free airtime and great gifts, registered members can also access special services such as POEA and DFA news updates as well as look forward to upcoming services that are both beneficial and relevant to the OFW relative here in the Philippines. It is this special attention to the specific needs of their valuable clients which sets SMART apart from the rest. In these times of depression and longing SMART will take care of you and help you weather your storm.

Close family ties is important to SMART

ADVT.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2003

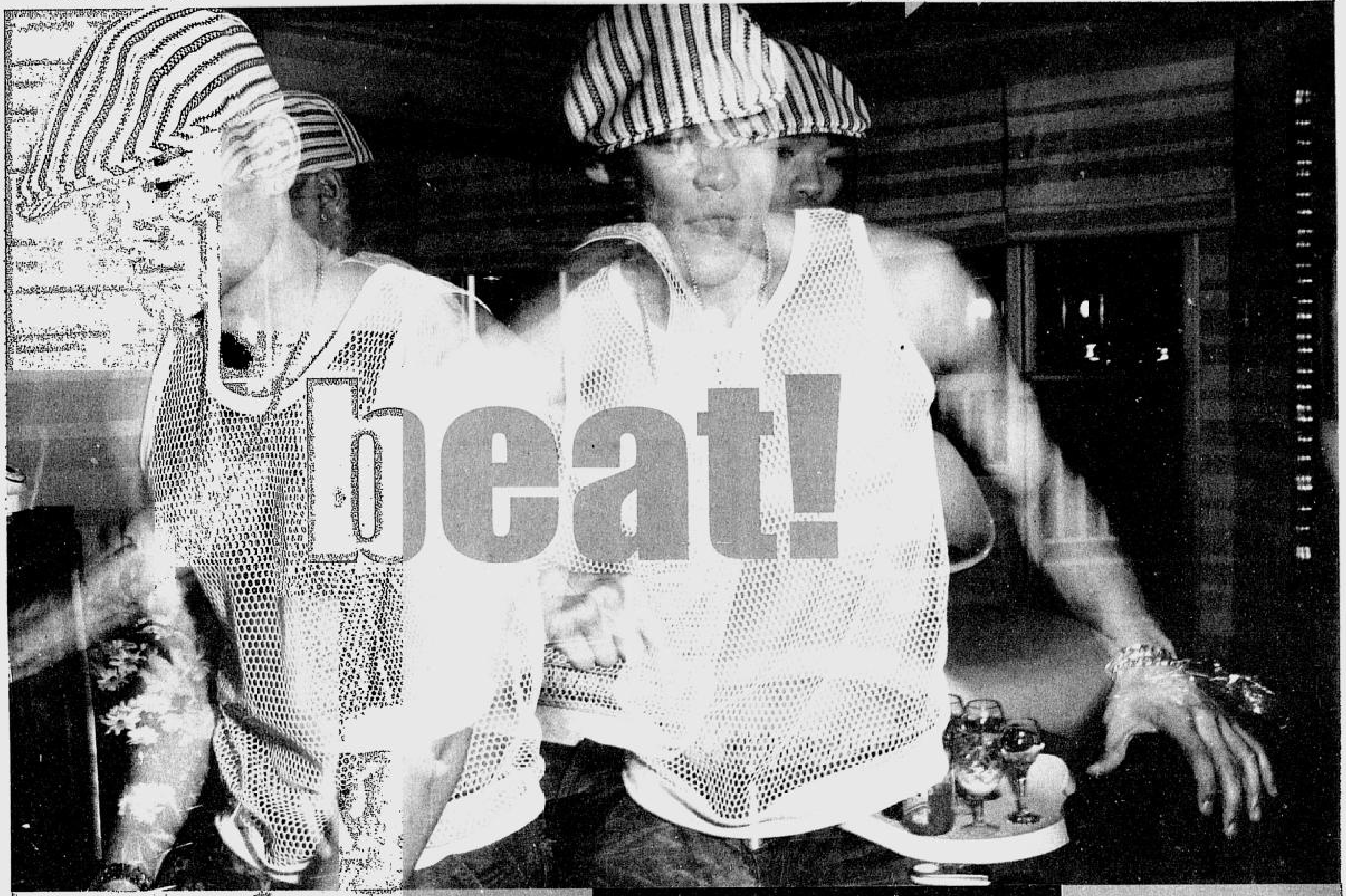
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUPER! countdown: 61 days till Christmas

SATURDAY Super

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph

Contributing Editor **Pam Pastor**
Creative Director **Tim Yap**



who is jay r and why is he raising the roof on r&b?

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Curious George

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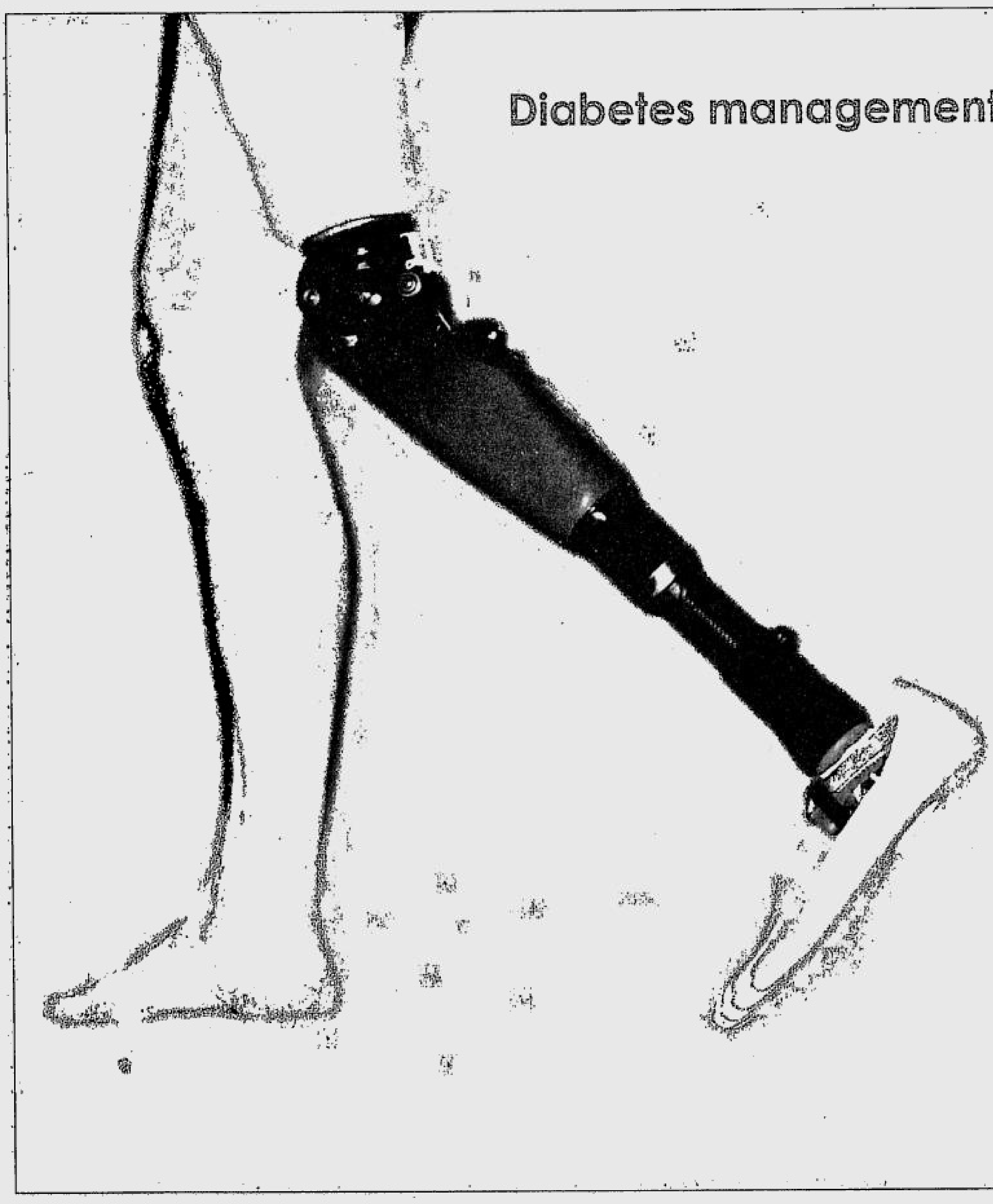
that '80s show

pageG2



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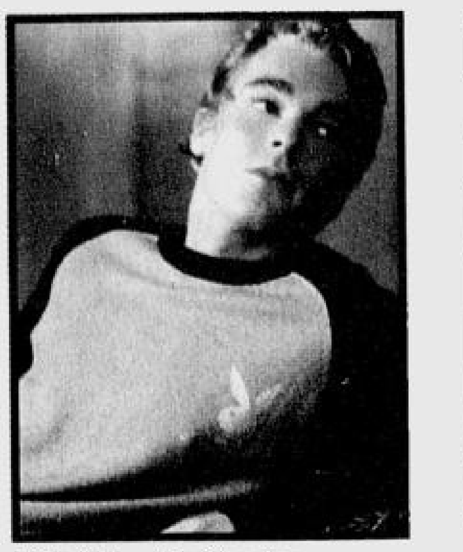
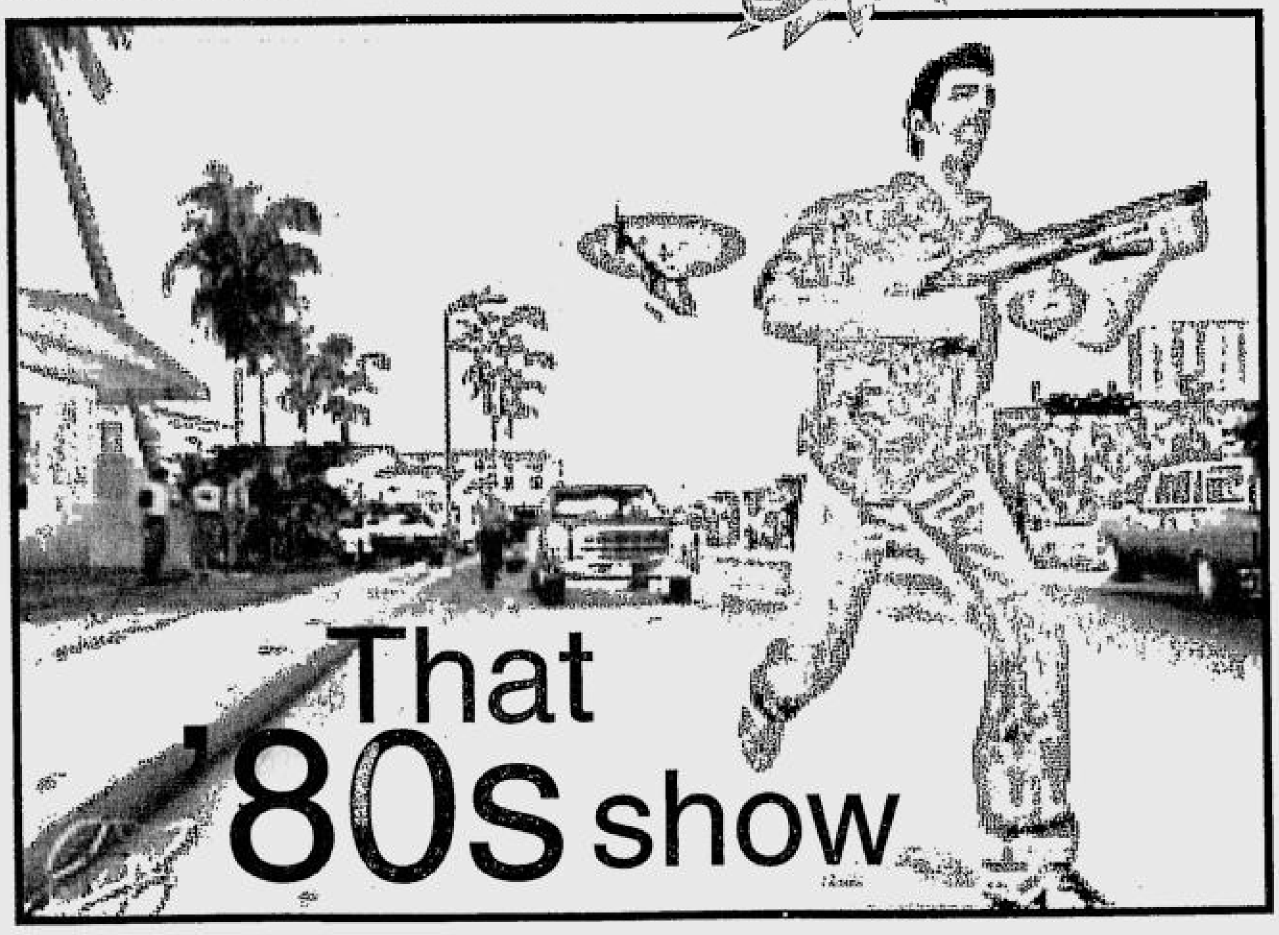


FOR nights at the Mansion



That '80s show

Age against the machine

Gino de la Paz

ON one hand, I was a sleepy Disney creature barely out of his diapers during most of the 1980s. Oblivious to the Wall Street boom and way too concerned with finger painting, I couldn't actively chart the pop culture ephemera of the time. On the other hand, I do remember seeing clips of "We Are The World" and wondering why the kids that these outlandish people were singing about had flies coming out of their nostrils. I also recall mice-eating aliens on "V," a sci-fi series that could have been "Fear Factor" in a past life. Hardly stuff for toddlers, those traumatic images were hand-me-downs from the adults around me. You see, aside from supervised cartoons, I wasn't allowed to watch TV until "Doogie Howser, M.D."

The 1980s are highly iconic, which makes it such a vast cultural mine. You don't need to have been around then to know that Debbie Gibson, the Slinky, and Punky Brewster all flowed like primary-colored lava from that decade. And what about fashion? British Knights, back-combed hair a là Alf, and tapered acid-washed jeans, were all part of those hyper-impractical years. John Hughes captured the big-shouldered spirit of that generation with period pieces like "The Breakfast Club," "Sixteen Candles," and "Some Kind of Wonderful." When specific dates or years are concerned, however, everything before "Beverly Hills, 90210" and Nirvana is all a blur to me. Due to the birth lottery, I made the leap from tween to teen in the '90s so I can't help filtering the '80s through a free-for-all perspective.

Fashion people—those who regard Anna Wintour as their North Star—say, "The '80s are back." I must disagree. When taken outside the '80s, references to that decade are no longer in their original form. The '80s are then recontextualized to suit the hyperactive pop carousel.

Fountain of youth

Mock-serious allusions to "the decade that taste forgot" were visible as early as 1990. Modern English and The Cure reissued remixes of their previous hits, "Melt With You" and "Close To Me" respectively. P.M. Dawn sampled Spandau Ballet's neo-romantic hit "True" on "Set Adrift On Memory Bliss" in 1991. In 1995, Cher Horowitz, Alicia Silverstone's character in "Clueless," referred to Azzedine Alaia as a "very important designer." Jason Nevins' 1997 reworking of Run DMC's "It's Like That" reintroduced the hip-hop pioneers to the download generation. The following year, Adam Sandler owned the box office with "The Wedding Singer," a movie brimming with footnotes on mid-80s MTV culture. Improvising through the '90s kept the dowdiness of blue eyeshadow at bay.

Even in the millennium, the '80s seem to have also found the fountain of youth. During Spring/Summer 2001, '80s underground artist Stephen Sprouse tagged the Louis Vuitton Monogram with graffiti and made the defaced Speedy Bag a runaway success. The same year's "Donnie Darko" had a scene called "Head Over Heels" that juxtaposed the mood of 1988 with the slickness of the post-crash era. Thanks to its 1980s Miami setting, Sony Playstation 2's "Grand Theft Auto: Vice City" became the best game of 2002. Earlier in 2003, the late Eva Cassidy served up a haunting version of Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time" on the "Smallville" soundtrack. Brooklyn brats Fannypack channel JJ Fad on "Cameltoe," their current ode to frontal wedgies. Look around and see Xanadu-inspired collections by Jeremy Scott, Marc by Marc Jacobs zippered pants, mullets, gold jewelry, scrunched boots, leg warmers, and Playboy T-shirts. For Chrissakes, Kylie Minogue is back again with "Slow" and No Doubt just rehashed Talk Talk's '82 gem "It's My Life." Is it just me, or is the stage set for yet another '80s moment?

THE MULLET: Also known as the Mississippi Waterfall

Somehow, everything out of that synthesizer-heavy decade seems so right today. Is it just me, or is the stage set for yet another replay?

Broken-in decade

Somehow, everything out of that synthesizer-heavy decade seems so right today. But how do you sum up the essence of something without resorting to stereotype? When young people are set free to hoard the best parts of a broken-in decade, a Bay Garnett-style hybrid of innovation and eccentricity ensues.

As a twentysomething today, I'm somewhat lucky that post-postmodern logic has not totally eclipsed the '80s. Flipping 180 degrees, tacky has become acceptable and, for some, even desirable. However, we've learned from mistakes of the past so borderline kitsch now comes without the shoulder pads. With pop culture and fashion at its most bare-faced, this generation's open-door fun fest pulsates with color like 1983 but strides with minimalism like 1999. On a certain level, I think of life now as a downtown "Dynasty," a chilled-out "Falcon Crest," or a much relaxed "Knots Landing." Reconciling contradictions has become a lifestyle, but as we continue defining the present by nodding to the past, how will our future take shape? Will the 00s leave a genuine legacy or will history merely see the Atkins Diet version of the 1980s?

Offbeat Poetry

OUT THE WINDOW

Tals Diaz

YOU could say that my stereo speakers are, literally, my personal speakers. You can always get a good clue about what I'm feeling based on the music that I play. In fact, I kinda live out my emotional states through songs from past to present, selected for particular lyrics that perfectly convey what I'm feeling at the moment. I call it the soundtrack of my life.

Heartstrings

I remember the first time I actually, successfully, snagged a real, breathing human being of the opposite sex without having to resort to blackmail. It was back in my early college days, when this good-looking guy, the reason that I kept cutting my afternoon classes, asked me to be his girlfriend on one crazy-fun Friday night in a now-defunct bar in Makati. For the simple reason that our little star-crossed affair happened on a Friday night, I couldn't stop playing The Cure's "Friday, I'm in Love" for days on end. A month later, I replaced Robert Smith with The Smiths and started blasting "Heaven Knows I'm Miserable Now." As you can guess, my romantic little merger went up in flames a bit too soon. Though I fell in love on a Friday, I also realized that it could have been the result of having imbibed copious amounts of cheap liquor, and as Morrissey sang, I was just "happy in the haze of a drunken hour."

SHOEGAZING sojourn. Love spirals downwards circa 1993

MORISSEY—the more you ignore him, the closer he gets

I must confess that on some of my emotional black hole days, my choice of music would not always be up to par with my personal standards of good taste. Indeed, quoting Morrissey again, "Caligula would have blushed." A perfect example would be about some time ago, when I found out from the many *tsismosos y tsismosas* of the Manila nightlife scene that my ex-boyfriend was already getting warm and fuzzy with another girl, only two months after ending our four-year relationship.

Going wacko-jacko, I suddenly felt the urge to dust off my Alanis Morrisette album, "Jagged Little Pill," from my purgatorial shelf of CDs. For I just had to listen to the bitter venom-dripping song "You Oughta Know" for the line: "It was a slap in the face, how quickly I was replaced, and are you thinking of me when you (bleep) her?" I played that song 10 times with the volume on high, just to amplify my pretty bleeped up state.

Musical haiku

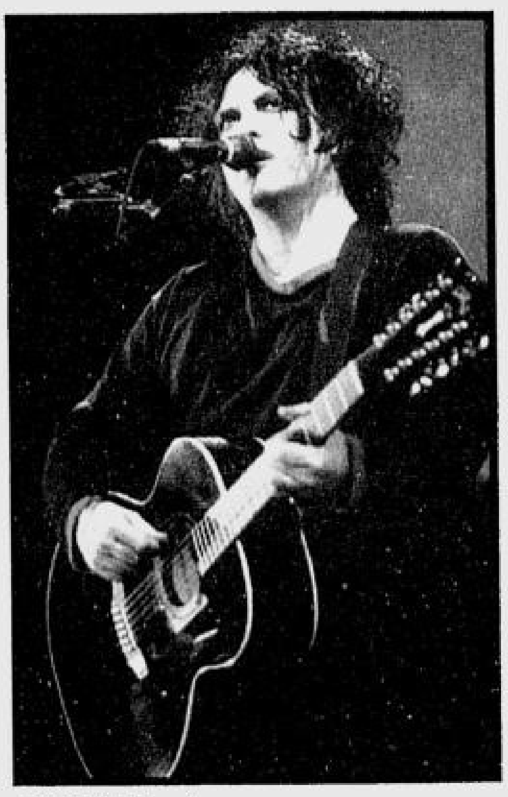
I do have the bad habit of wallowing in emotional mud for a few days, and get all soaked up with songs that help me with my introspection. For me, it's almost like reading poetry, except I'm listening to poems sung by other people whom I'd like to believe understand what I feel because they've had similar past experiences. Snippets of lyrics become musical haiku that comfort me.

When my best friend moved abroad and I felt lost at times, I matched my shoegazing mood with the song "By Your Side" by Love Spirals Downwards, in which a wispy-voiced Suzanne Perry purrs, "I'd cross the ocean just to be there by your side." I also remember listening to Aqua's "Turn Back Time" once, reflecting on my feelings of regret for not seizing the day and "staying for the night."

Of course, I'm not always a basket case of melancholic emotions. After a much-needed little period of sulking and a lot of Tanduay, I do manage to get back on the upswing of serious concerns. Why, just last week, during Bush's state visit to our shores, I shunned the TV and instead blasted the song "Bushfire" by the B-52's. These days, I actually find myself on a natural high and eating up the pop-tarty, Prozac-like lyrics of Kylie and blithely singing along: "Everything went from wrong to right, and the stars came out and filled up the sky."

Wordplay

More than simply enjoying ear candy, my attraction to certain songs stems from lyrics that have personal meaning for me. I guess it has a lot to do with being in the industry of wordsmiths; I'm quite the sucker for words. I was never into Latin music until I went abroad and my Latino *amigos* translated some of their music to English for my comprehension. When I found out the meaning of the first few lines of Carlos Vives' song, "Quiero Verte Sonreir" translated to "In one afternoon in April, I will give you the sun," my mushy aorta swooned and I soon went *loca* for anything Latin. Likewise, although I've always loved bossa nova, I fell in much deeper when I made the effort to understand the words. A Brazilian friend translated Gilberto Gil's "Vamos Fugir" from Portuguese, and it meant, "Let's escape, Run away to another place under the sun, to the south, and find our blue sky." And just like that, I had the perfect song for each time I got on the road or hopped on a twin-engine plane to escape to one of our many islands.



THE CURE for all seasons

THE SMITHS as wordsmiths

What's playing on my speakers now? Something that echoes what I'm feeling, as usual—peaceful, happy, and a bit entranced, as though I'm breathing underwater

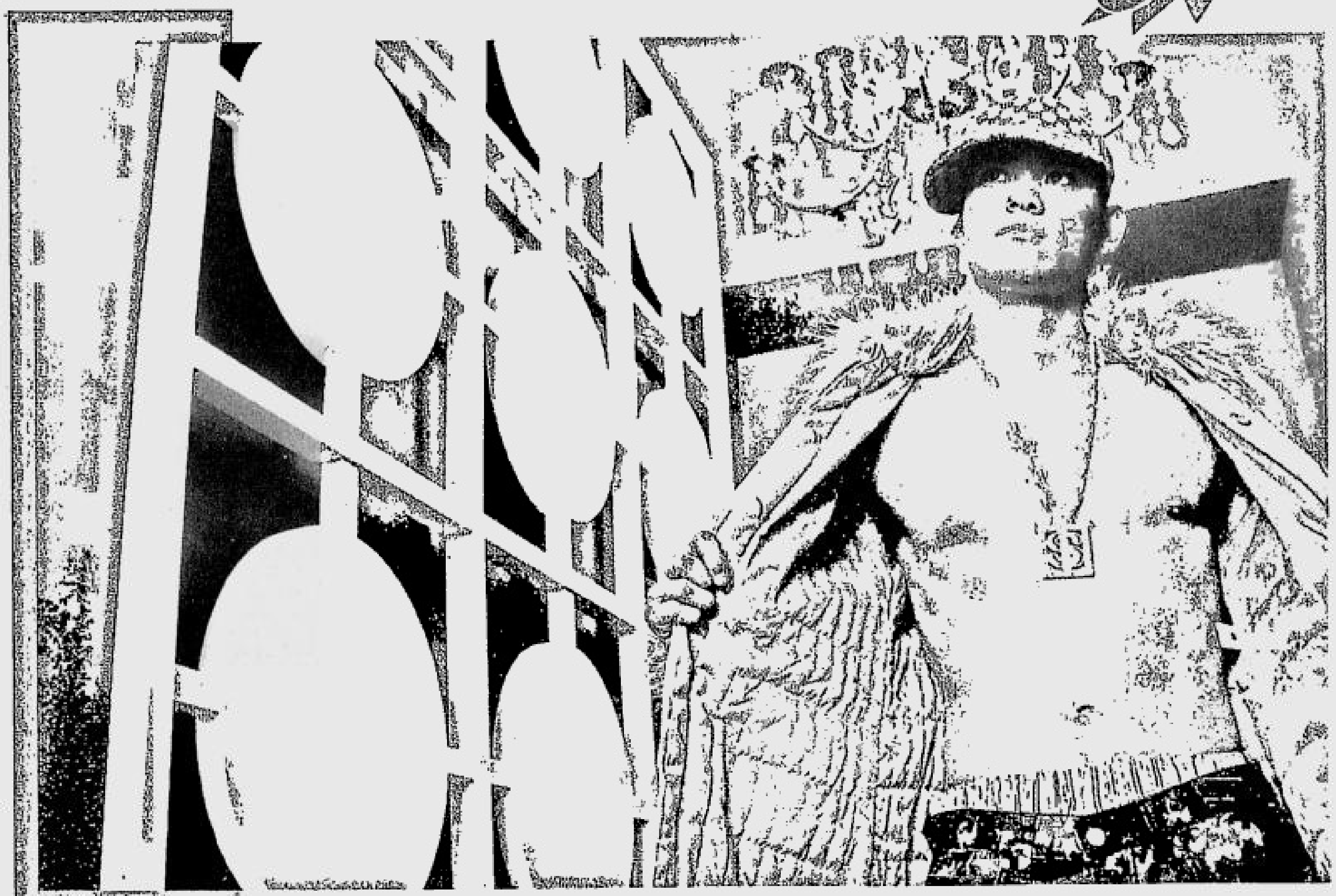
Mood music

Even though I got the latest memo that God is no longer a deejay, I believe that the deejay can still channel some divinity because of his power to control the atmosphere.

Whenever I'd play deejay in that super-happening, chillax lounge club called my bedroom on the first days of every summer, I would always put in "Summer Breeze" by the Isley Brothers, just to hear the lines, "Summer breeze, makes me feel fine, blowing through the jasmine in my mind." My brain would thus fast-forward to vacation mode. Now, my untoppled beach song of choice is "Pure Shores" by All Saints, spiced up by William Orbit and featured on "The Beach" soundtrack. ("Take me to the beach!") What better way to call forth the five o'clock feeling in an instant? Now that's divine!

So what's playing on my speakers now? For the curious, it's "Northern Lights" by Lux. It echoes what I'm feeling tonight: peaceful, happy, and a bit entranced, as if I'm breathing underwater. Oddly enough, it is a wordless song, but somehow, it fits. Like the spaces between the lines of a poem.

(Email the author at: inca_orange@yahoo.com)



SEXUALLY SUBLIMINAL R&B's crown prince Jay R

WHO IS JAY R AND WHY IS HE RAISING THE ROOF ON R&B?

Tim Yap

Born **Gaudencio Aquino Sillona III**, nope he's not related to **Kris** or **Cory**, but he is making soundwaves all over the metro.

Fast forward to the zeroes, Jay R ('coz he's the junior—Jr—Jay R, get it? Like, what would you prefer? Gaud? Dencio?) is Pinoy R&B's crown prince.

With a huge billboard over Edsa, a record lording it over the radio, a steamy video that gets played over and over on MTV, girls swooning secretly and getting the boys' nod for his street suave.

"I've been doing this all my life," Jay R explains his groove. At 13, he started recording, doing demos during his free time while juggling schoolwork. Fifteen and he formed his band First Impression. He sang in his uncle's band The Howlers as a 17 year old young adult.

At 19, he saved up enough to form his own studio, and continued to hone his music. When his tita **Geleen Eugenio** visited him in the States (he grew up in LA) when he was 21, she got to listen to Jay R's demo, and couldn't stop raving about it.

So she sent the demo to GMA and Universal—and the rest, as they say, is his story.

He is not just your typical laid back Amboy-slash-balikbayan-who-done-good-back-home. As the youngest of four siblings, he grew up with a strong sense of homeland pride. "*Sa bahay, Tagalog lagi*, we ate *kare kare, bopis, dinuguan*. I washed a lot of dishes, folded my clothes, did the laundry, swept the floor, took the trash out, washed my dog, my car."

Seven months after he arrived in Manila, he is starring in a soap opera on GMA (appearing as himself in "Narito Ang Puso Ko"), working on a second album, appearing weekly on SOP, singing duets with **Kyla**, raising the roof while keeping it real.

He has made it in a field where many have tried, and failed, or failed to try. Pinoys tend to gravitate towards mainstream R&B acts, ignoring their own unique heritage. Jay R has broken that stereotype, and putting the hip back into Pinoy hip hop.

In fact, in his first album, "Designed for Love," he ends his repertoire with a **Vehnee Saturno** composition—making a proud statement on his roots.

He is ubiquitous in the local R&B front, frequenting the clubs where his type of music reigns. It takes him about a week to write a song. In the States, his friend **Ray Brown** hooked him up with **Troy Johnson**, who produced his album with the Manila and LA markets in mind.

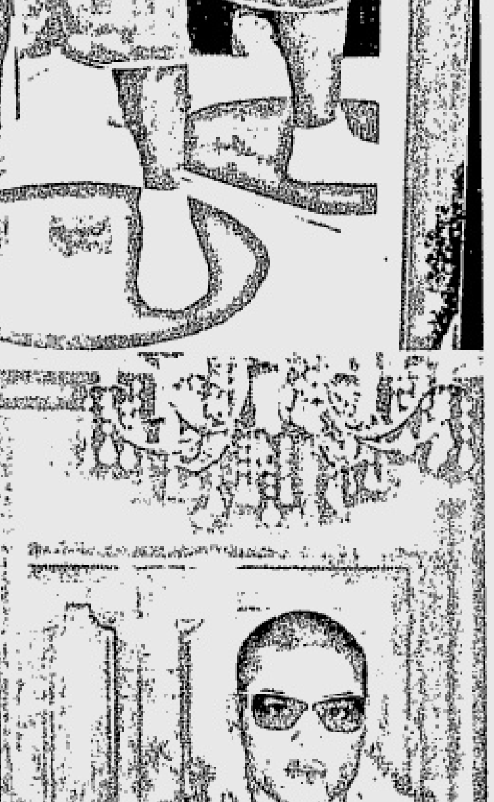
He describes his album as "subliminally sexual"—with lines like "Do you think of me ... when you come ... I want you to come.. let's come together.. " No wonder the girls' underpants are flyin'.

More than being sexual, his songwriting often tells a story. One song tells about his best friend and his girlfriend. They wanna get it on, but they can't—songs with storylines so real, they push buttons. "I just like putting stories together."

And we like to listen.

FLOATS like a butterfly, stings like a bee in [illegible]

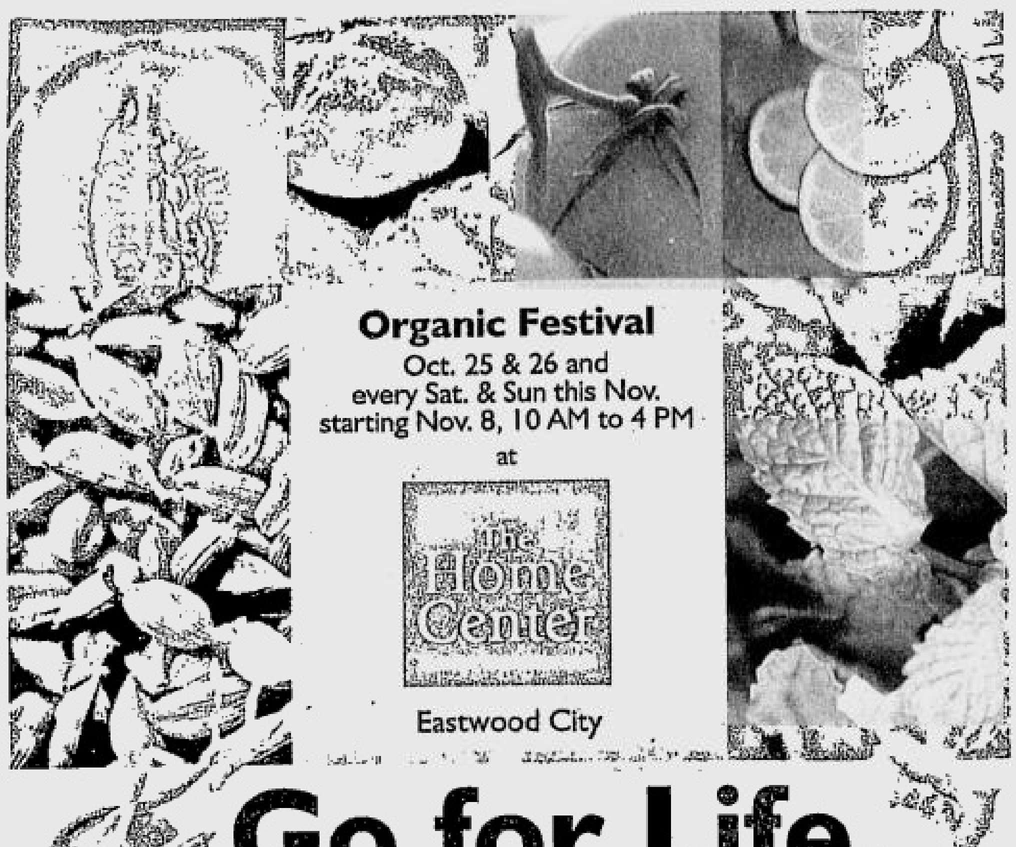
He has made it in a field where many have tried and failed. Jay R is putting the hip back into Pinoy hip hop.



BLING AND BEYOND. Home boy comes home.

JAY R is "designed for love," the morning after.

Produced by Tim Yap
Photos by Paolo Piñeda
Grooming by Xeng Zulueta
of Shu Uemura



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  Organic Standards
  Rogelio Bantiles, Phil. Organic Guarantee, Inc.
- **Nov. 8, 10am-12nn**
  Organic Raw Vegetables and Fruit Juices — Their Therapeutic Uses
  Alexis Bantiles, Alliance of Volunteers in Dev't. Foundation
- **Nov. 9, 10am-12nn**
  What Is GMO or Genetically Modified Organisms?
  Dr. Pamela Fernandez, UP Los Baños
- **Nov. 15, 10am-12nn**
  Status of Organic Trade in the Philippines and Worldwide Demand
  Teresita Osyson, Dept. of Trade and Industry
- **Nov. 16, 10am-12nn**
  Organic Inspection and Certification
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AFTERHOURS

Compiled by Adrian Cuenca

SATURDAY, OCT. 25:

Acquario: ERG presents The Blue Room Twilight CD launch with Wendell Garcia (deep, sexy house) open bar on ERG all night

Defected @ Expo Exchange, 2/F Greenbelt 1 with San Francisco DJ Jay-J (house, deep house) and vocalist Latrice Barnett.

Nuvo: Electrolounge with Scrambled Edge and Don Renato

Restaurant 12: The Lost Classics (nostalgia without the cheese) with Adrian Cuenca

Dreambar: Circo Loco with Manolet Dario (progressive house) and percussionist Fritz Barth

Tiananmen Bar and Resto: Couch Culture by Couch Lab (chill out, balearic)

Wasabi: Saturd80's, new wave and dance music from the era with DJ Luis and DJ Jojo

Olive: The Boiler Room with Nicky Jurado (hard dance), Owens Sun (Progressive house) and Myk Tolentino (progressive, tech-house)

Absinth: Kemistry with Mulan (techno), Spoonman (electroclash), James Bald (house), Patch (funky house), Houseboy (house, tech-house), Rubber Inc (live electronica) and Souljahs

Bed: Cocoy Puyat (all kinds of house) in an all-nighter DJ set

TUESDAY, OCT. 28:

Solidsoul Movement presents: Peace N' Motion at 37F Enterprise Center, Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas. A hip-hop music and performance festival featuring Neil 'Storm' Robitzky (EU) & Karl 'Kane-Wung' Libanus (EU) plus Caliph8, Kimosave, Radikal and other guests.

Temple: Goodlife Tuesdays with Steve Mills & Paolo Cabalfin (R&B)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 29:

Absinth: Smooth Wednesdays with Steve Mills (R&B, hip hop)

Il Ponticello: community with Adrian Cuenca (electro, disco punk) and guest DJs.

Temple: Faith with Manolet Dario & Raji Mata (progressive house)

Flute: Johnny Walker presents: Walk on the House Side with DJ Patch (funky house)

Olive: Syrup with Lester Castillo (R&B) & guest DJs

THURSDAY, OCT. 30:

Restaurant 12: Globe Platinum presents Jermaine Brown (house, deep house) of Toronto, an exclusive party for Globe Platinum members. Also featuring 12 after 12 resident Chip de la Calzada.

Studio 23's Halloween Ball with DJ Shortcut (turntablism, hip-hop) of the World Famous Beat Junkies, Plaza Carpark, Power Plant at Rockwell.

V Bar: Vamps n' Villains Halloween Party with Scrambled Edge (latin house, lounge) and Latin canteen

Temple: Yin Yang, a sonic fusion of RnB and House music with Kevin Ruiz.

Olive: Cuervo Gold @ Orange presents the Black & White Ball with Owens Sun (progressive House), Mulan (techno) and Myk Tolentino (progressive, tech house).

Azzurro: Plush Thursdays Halloween Party with Steve Mills (R&B)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31:

Ayala Center presents Greenbelt's "Rock and Royalty" Halloween Ball by Tim Yap at the third level of Greenbelt 3, 9pm open bar. 12 establishments, 10 DJs, 5 ethereal bands. Everyone is invited. No costume, no entry.

Big Fish Presents: The Cream Halloween Ball @ NBC Tent with Danny Rampling, UK (house)

Wherelse?: L8R, the official afterhours party of Cream with Kevin Ruiz (progressive, tribal house). Starts 3 a.m.

Restaurant 12: 12 after 12 with Chip de la Calzada (sexy, deep house and lounge)

Absinth: The Eternal Deathwake 2. Dance to the Ecstasy of Dark Music and sway to the Danse Macabre with DJs Runeshadow, DJ Fleschwounds, DJ Wake (gothic, deathRock, darkwave, EBM, Insdustrial)

Wasabi: Vibe Fridays with Steve Mills (R&B)

Olive: Orange (the anthems 1999-2001) with Anthony Kierulf, Jay Tengco and Jon & Marc Naval.

"Maligno." the Black Party @ Orosa strip, Malate. Cocoy Puyat (techy, tribal, soulful house), David Jacob (progressive house) and Patch (funky house)

Bed: The Black Party with Kevin Ruiz (New York tribal house)

For your gigs to be published email adrian@djconspiracy.com by Tuesday afternoon.

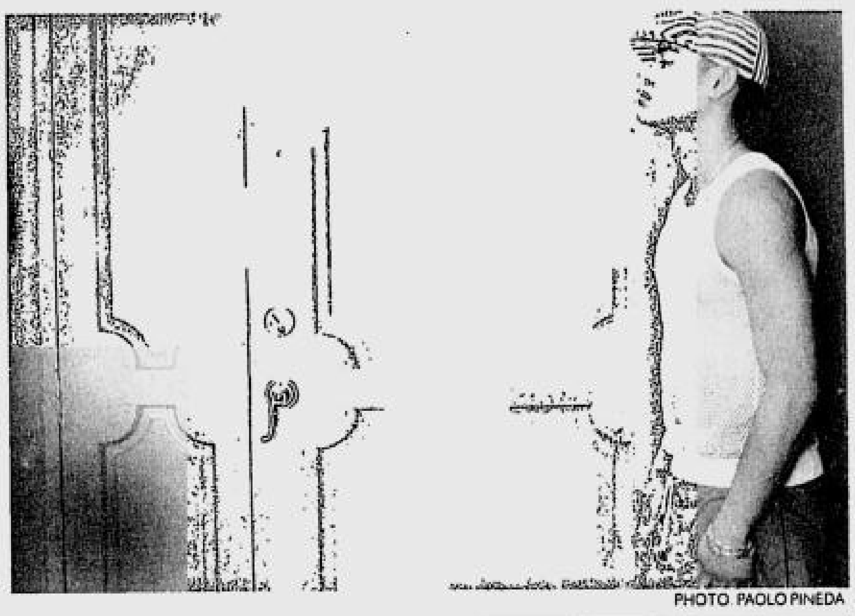
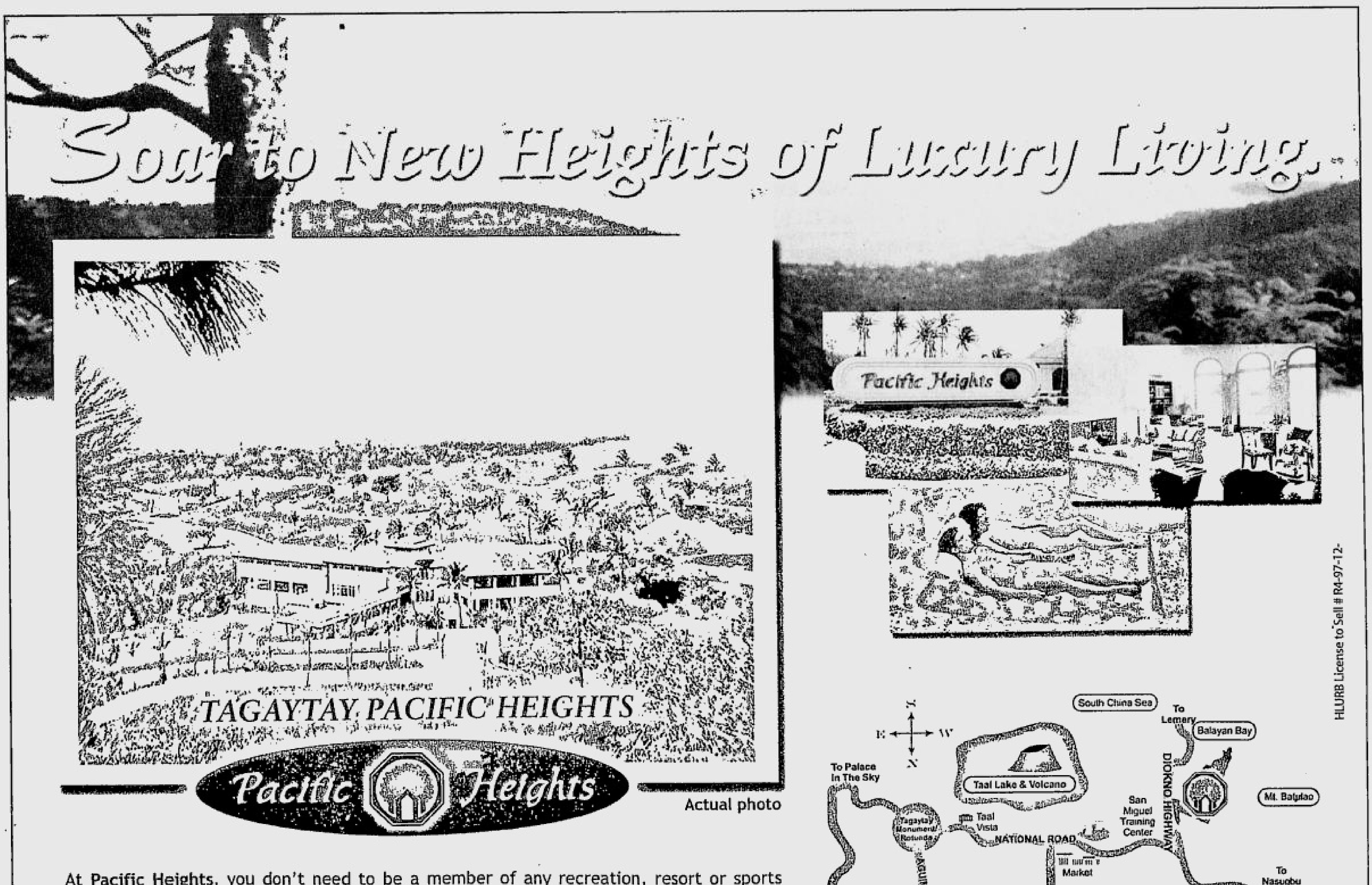


PHOTO PAOLO PINEDA



Actual photo

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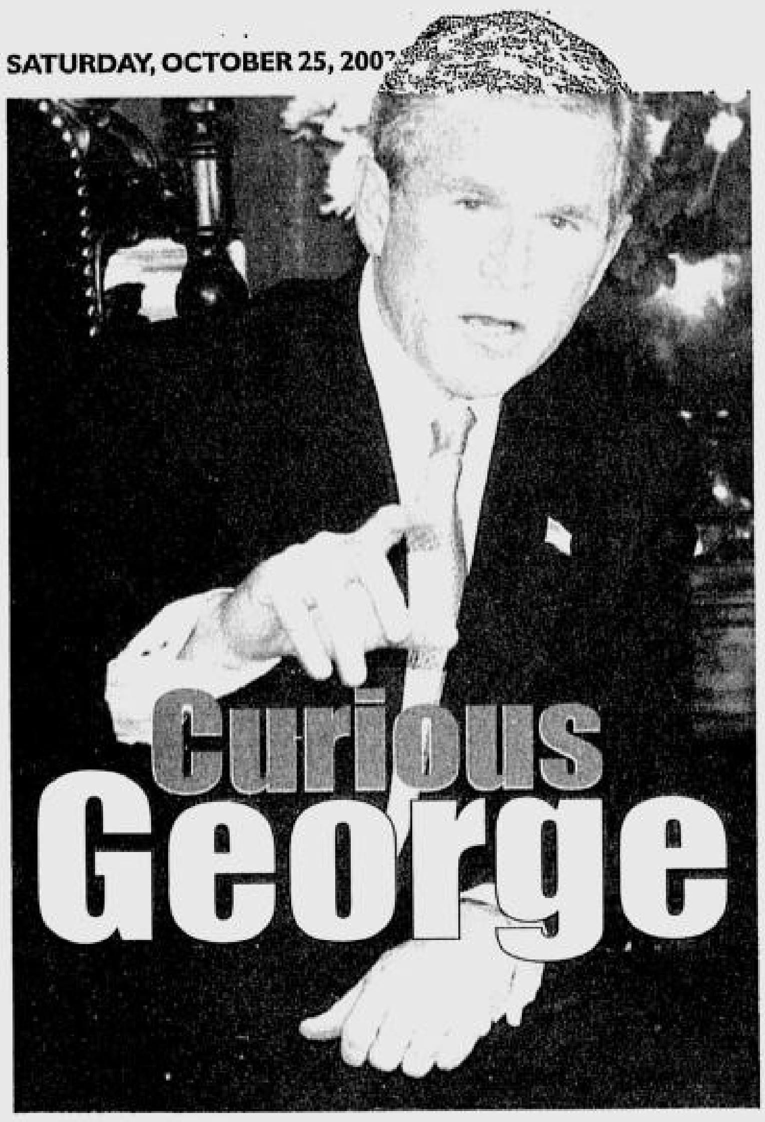


Curious George

By Martin Valdes
Contributor

> He romances the crowd, deftly. As he speaks of rebuilding Iraq, punishing terrorists, and smoking out international criminals, my mind wanders. Where could Saddam Hussein be?

I HAVE a dream.

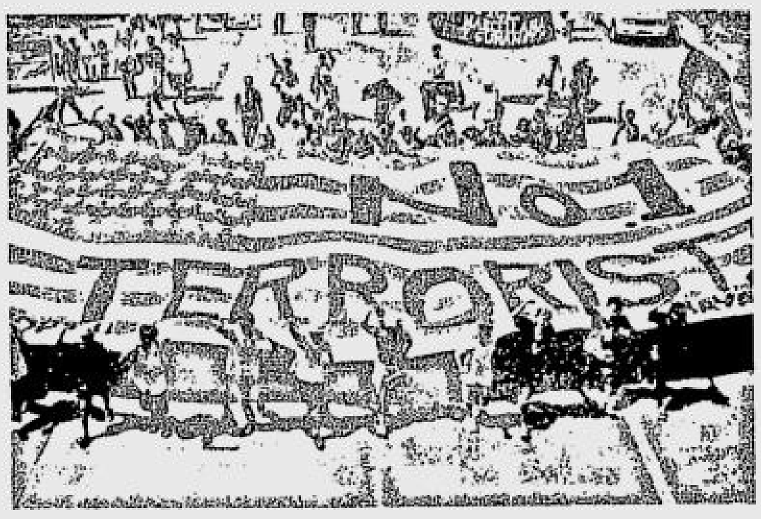
I have a dream that one day on the Chocolate Hills of Bohol, the sons of Sam and the sons of Juan will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood, sharing Happy Meals and *bagoong* rice. I have a dream that one day, all men, regardless of creed or color, will revel in their differences and never again forget their common roots as human beings. I have a dream that one day all flags will be burnt, not in protest, but in recognition that such nominal symbols are no longer required.

That dream is very far away.

Today is a nightmare. I have been assigned to cover the speech of George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, before a joint session of the Philippine Congress at the House of Representatives. It is a historic moment, the first since Eisenhower in 1960. Given the current socio-political climate in the world, everybody knows this is no simple goodwill visit. All stops have been pulled out to ensure that his brief Manila interlude is a smooth one. Security is the number one priority; ambience is a close second. Even though I have been given all necessary clearance to weave through sundry security checks and protests all over Metro Manila, I still anticipate a challenging drive. I leave two hours early and pack a light lunch of Lucky Me Instant Noodles. It is Oct. 18, 2003, a day that will live in Instant Mami.

Fortunately, it only takes me half an hour to get there, the pass plastered on my windshield apparently doing the job. The police have set up security blocks up to 2 km away from the Batasang Pambansa complex. Protesters who have congregated outside the security perimeter are now earnestly denouncing Bush. "Down with USA! Down with Bush! Bush is the real terrorist!" These are not unusual complaints, of course. I can't help noticing how unimaginative most of the slogans are, compared to some I've seen in protest rallies overseas. (In New York, they were sublime: "5,000 Dead Babies on your conscience, Bush!" In Paris, they were authoritative: "America Must Be Stopped!" In Frankfurt, they were hilarious: "Screw David Hasselhoff!" And in Sydney, they were ingenious: "Lesbians Who Don't Like Bush!") A papier-mâché effigy of the US president is set alight as the protesters cheer, possibly unaware of the biblical irony unleashed by such a sight—did God not speak through a burning bush? Within the security radius is a different matter. Children in their school uniforms have lined the road waving little paper versions of Old Glory.

STOP beating around, Bush!



STARS, stripes and gripes

Pro frisking

I reach the complex at half past one; the address is set for 3 p.m. It is my first visit to the House of Representatives, and I am duly impressed by the professional manner with which I am greeted and frisked, intimate without being awkward (reminds me of my first girlfriend). I take my seat at the third level gallery—so high up, the oxygen is thin. By 2:30 p.m., the hall is almost completely populated with people who smell important, decked out in *barong tagalogs* and suits, the women resplendent in Filipiniana ensembles. I haven't seen this many traditional outfits since I got lost in Tesoro's. For a brief moment, I harbor the eerie hope that everybody would suddenly break into song and start skipping through bamboo sticks.

Four score and seven years is how long it seems. In reality, the Bush entourage is only an hour and a half late. He finally arrives at 4:35 in the afternoon, two huge screens within the hall visually narrating his motorcade's entrance. As far as I know, he is supposed to arrive via chopper, but the aircraft must have been color-coded. Here comes the hot stepper, the lyrical gangster, I think to myself. And so, the most powerful man in the world, who has divided the hemispheres of the world into those who hate or love him, takes his seat not 70 yards from my person (I could have nailed him with a pitching wedge), to deafening applause. This is a reception that befits a rock star, with both men and women screeching and whooping like extras in an MTV show.

18 ovations

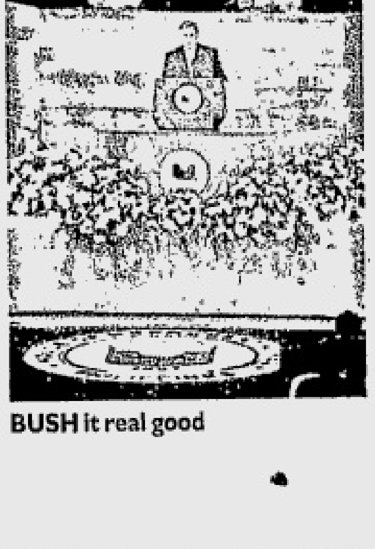
He romances the crowd, deftly. He uses such catch phrases: "rock of stability in the Pacific," "we stand together," and "warm friends." He reminds us of a common past and a shared future. He congratulates us on behalf of his country and his administration. Then comes the part that he is really proficient at: "the philosophies of our war on terror." As he speaks of rebuilding Iraq, punishing terrorists, smoking out international criminals, my mind wanders. Where could Saddam Hussein be at this very moment? Enjoying a daiquiri in some remote beach? Reciting Neruda verses to an old girlfriend? Excavating a much sought-after Weapon of Mass Destruction cleverly hidden in his moustache? These profound thoughts are interrupted by another burst of applause for the VIP speaker.

(All in all, he would be accorded 18 ovations. The only other guy I know who gets that much cheering, 18 rounds in one day, is Tiger Woods.)

In the end, I decide it is no classic. It is a well-written speech meant to massage egos and reassure the Philippines that we are in a quid pro quo relationship with the US. But not much else is achieved. Outside the building, and surely around the world, people who despise him carry on: "Stop beating around, Bush!" I stand to applaud as he makes his exit—I may not like the man, but I will respect his office.

I drive away hoping to avoid the inevitable crush of traffic. The protesters are still at it, some of them strangling an American flag and sending it up in flames. I am rushing to Binondo to meet up with old friends for dinner, trade anecdotes and listen to people who have actually touched my life. Miraculously, I maneuver my car past the growing Gordian knot behind me.

Free at last, free at last. Thank God almighty, I am free at last.



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Say No to Bro!

SWAK!

by Lex

Filipino voters might take a cue from Nora Aunor's famous line: '*Walang himala*!'

FILIPINOS have destroyed the Christian virtues: Charity is now a sweepstake, Hope is a cigarette, and Trust is a condom.

Another virtue that is misused and abused is Faith.

Janice de Belen, when she announced on national TV that she was pregnant with Aga Mulach's baby, justified her predicament by saying "but God was with us when we did it." To this day, it is not uncommon to hear show biz denizens swearing by a higher power when they find themselves in sticky situations.

Duh-vine intervention

It also seems many Church leaders take the same defense—"God was with me when I did it"—when deciding which political candidates to endorse. Otherwise, how could they tell which contender is truly God's choice?

When Cardinal Sin, El Shaddai's Bro. Mike Velarde, Jesus Is Lord's Bro. Eddie Villanueva, or Iglesia ni Cristo's Bro. Erafio Manalo pick a candidate, many of their church members regard it an order straight from God. The complete trust that the faithful put on their God is transferred to the political candidate as soon as he is anointed. Problem is, the shepherd of the church on earth is often already part of the corrupt system!

Shouldn't voters be allowed to follow the dictates of their conscience instead of the dictates of their church?

It's time our religious leaders stopped playing with the lives of the faithful through political power-brokering, and focus instead on their ·flock's spiritual enlightenment. Jesus said: "My kingdom is not of this world," (i.e. do what you're there to do. If it's none of you're business, stay out of it.)

Himala

As a die-hard Noranian, I loved her most famous movie, "Himala," the story of a poor faith healer who, in the course of the narration, is raped, broken, and abused. At the end of the film, she is forced to face the people who believe she is God's messenger. Shedding tears from "vintage Nora" eyes, she admits to her followers: "*Walang himala...walang himala! Tayo ang gumagawa ng sarili nating himala!* (There are no miracles; we make our own miracles!)"

Since campaigning for the 2004 elections has obviously begun, it would be wise for us voters to consider the consequences, should we choose wrongly.

We've had to deal with the Marcoses' Swiss bank accounts, 20 years of human rights abuse, the Clark Expo, Amari controversy, jueteng, and now, the Macapagal highway and Jose Pidal. Let's hope we don't pick a Prez who, while being endorsed by some church group, sings hallelujahs to the heavens, but who, six years hence, will sing a different, albeit familiar, tune: "*Pasensya na po. Tao lang naman ako*. I tried my best *pero* we have to accept *na walang himala ... walang himala*!"

(For comments e-mail: swak@info.com.ph)

Brotherhood of the Wolves

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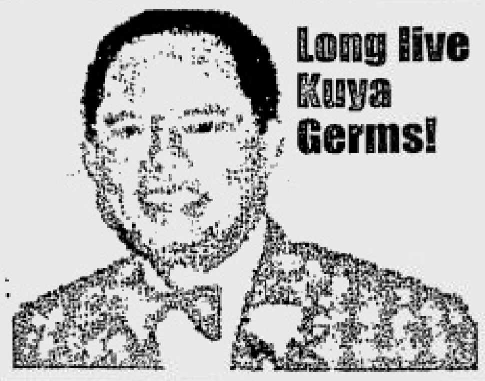
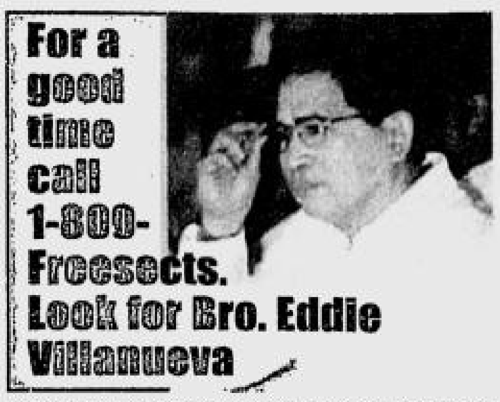
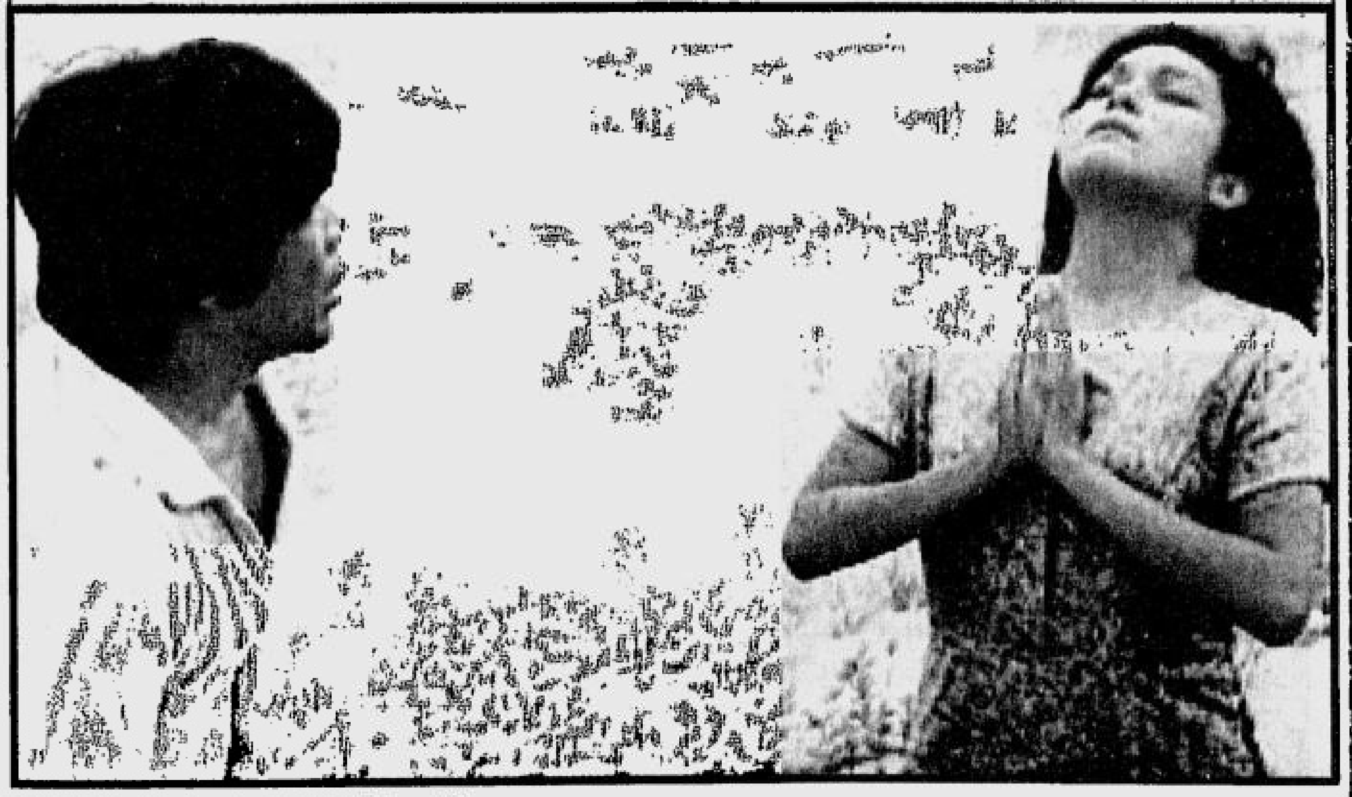


Long live Kuya Germs!

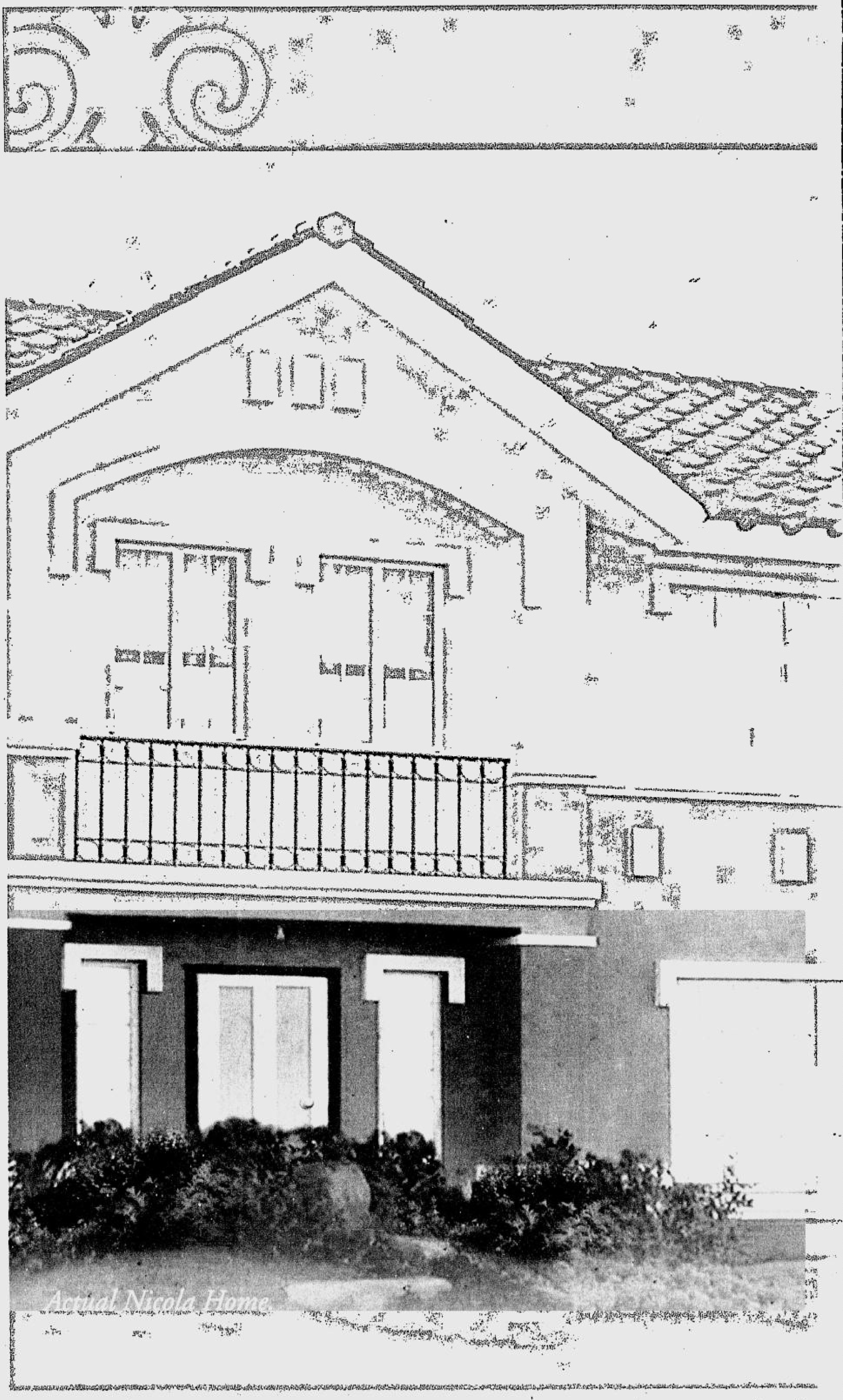


For a good time call 1-800-Freesects. Look for Bro. Eddie Villanueva

I.N.Competent si FPJ pero guwapo naman



PLEASE God save us from FPJ, Noli, and Ping...



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Guess who's coming to the "Rock and Royalty" Halloween Ball?

FREAKY Madonna, a bloody Britney, a scary Shakira and Marilyn Manson. The King of Hearts meets Prince Harry... Potter, Queen Elizabeth hobnobs with the Sea Princess. So, who are you going to be this Halloween?

Ayala Center has a little treat for you next freaky Friday, the 31st of October. Whether you choose to be a raving royalty or a ravishing rockstar--all roads lead to the third level of Greenbelt 3 for a grand slam of a Halloween ball—"Rock and Royalty."

Be possessed by the sensual spirits of the united powers of Absinth, Ice Vodka Bar, Figaro, Nanbantei, Di' Mark's, Kidd Creole, Aubar, Merk's, Krocodile Grill, Casa Armas, Redbox, with Globe Gentxt and Johnny Walker as they shower you with tricks and treats of their own.

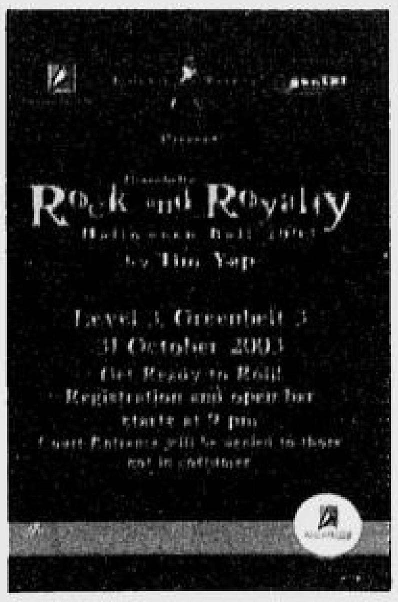
The longest running Halloween ball in the country has partyphiles of all shapes and sizes parading shamelessly in their most colorful costumes. The past years have given away such goodies as trips to Paris, shopping sprees, the latest cellphones and other unbelievably fab prizes.

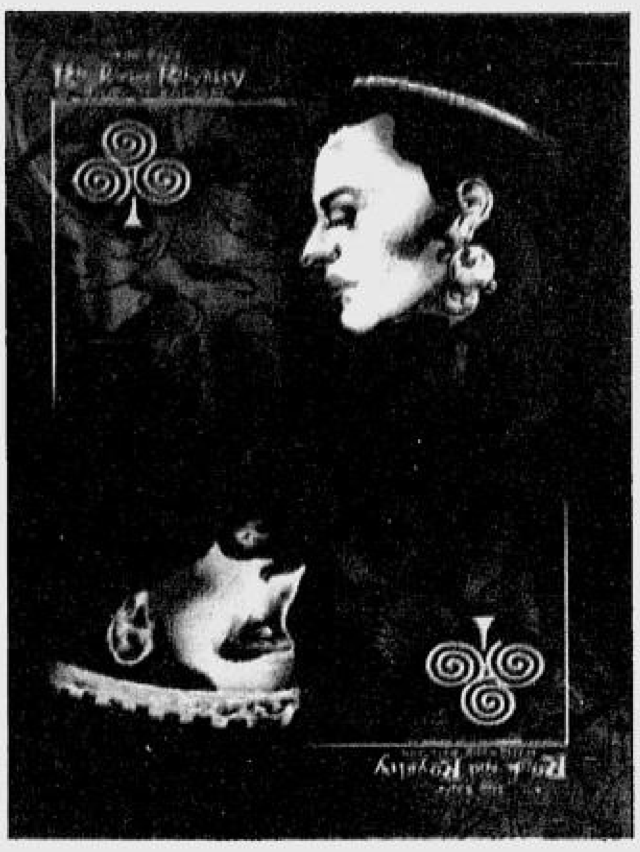
This year, aside from the regular bag of goodies, the "Best in Costume" awardee gets to own MyCinema for a day! And that's just a sweet starter for all the other treats that the Ayala Center has bagged up this All Hallow's Eve.

Remember to don your grandest best—those not in costume will be kept out of the kingdom.

So, get ready to shake, rattle, and roll...

YOUR SUPER! invite to the year's hottest Halloween shebang at Greenbelt 3


Presents
Rock and Royalty
Halloween Ball 2003
by Tim Yap
Level 3, Greenbelt 3
31 October 2003
Get Ready to Roll
Registration and open bar starts at 9 pm



Hip Hop Fever for free

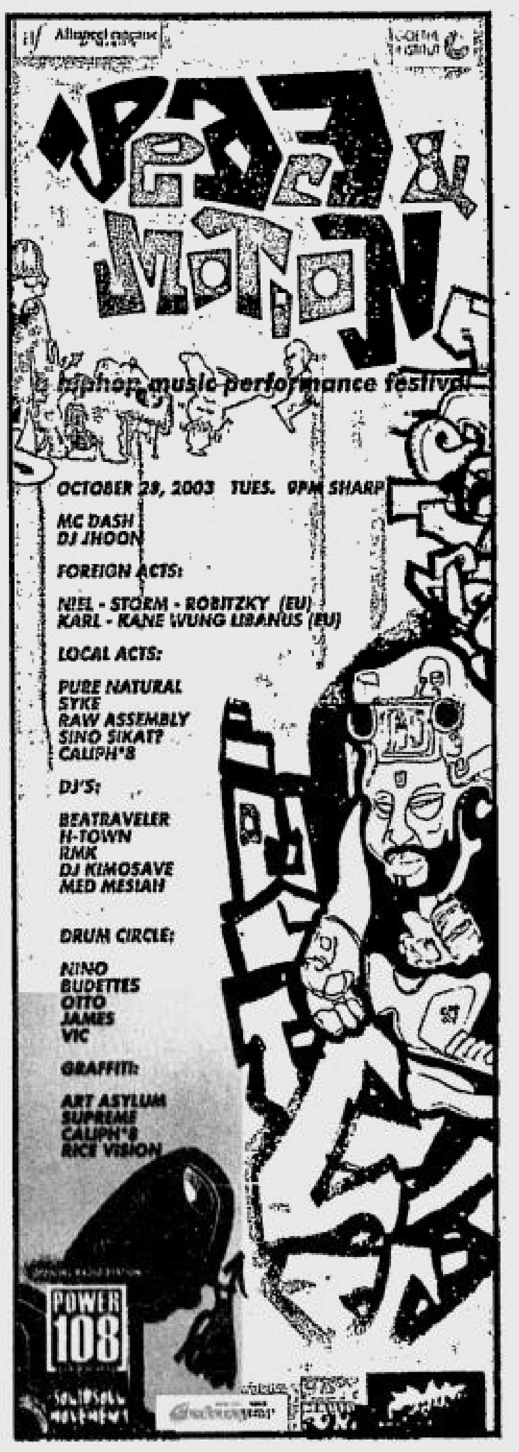
MANILA, get ready for this month's biggest hip hop fix.

Alliance Francaise de Manille and the Goethe-Institut Manila, two of the country's leading European cultural institutes, bring Euro-hip hop to Manila with a one-night-only performance festival featuring Europe's pioneering breakdancers.

Entitled "Peace N' Motion," this gathering celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Elysée Peace Treaty—one of the many efforts in promoting the European community through art and popular culture.

For the first time ever, Niels "Storm" Robitzky of Berlin and Karl Kane Wüng Libanus of Paris, both known as champions across Europe's dance festival and competition circuit, shall rivet local hip hop enthusiasts as part of their Asia-Pacific tour. The party is made even more exciting with the appearance of some of the country's hottest acts and DJs, all ready to take the festivities late into the night. Together with Storm and Kane Wüng's production group, Moov'n Aktion, events director Ronald Pasion of the Solid Soul Movement leads a team of enthusiastic party fixers, aiming to fuse the different facets of street lifestyle - dance, music, fashion, and eye-catching graffiti.

October 28, Tuesday, is the special day for hip hop fans. Head on over to the 37th Floor, Tower 1 of The Enterprise Center Ayala corner Paseo de Roxas Avenues in Makati City. Gate opens at 9 p.m. Admission is free.



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KARL - KANE WUNG LIBANUS (EU)
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SINO SIKAT?
CALIPH*8
DJ'S:
BEATRAVELER
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MED MESIAH
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NINO
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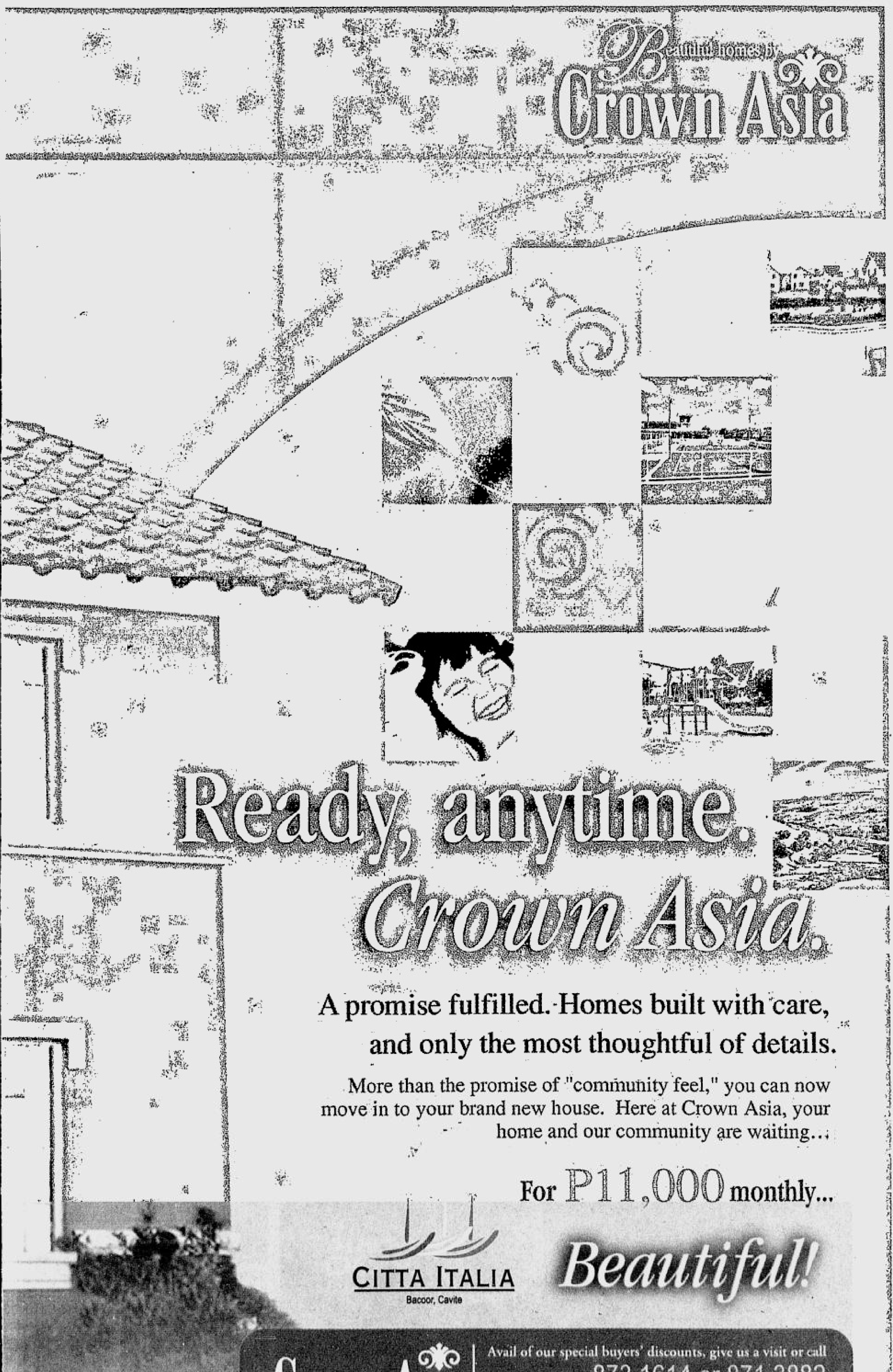
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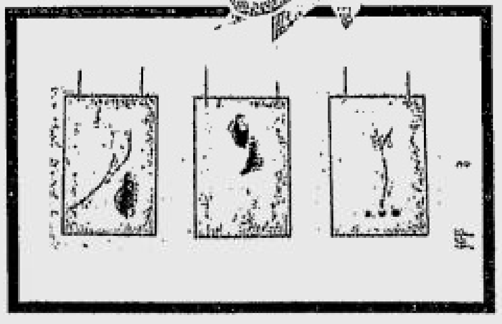
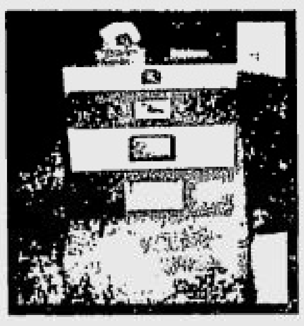
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SATURDAY Super

MEGA BABES. Asha Macam, Kym de Guzman, Minelli Bautista and Vicky Tensuan

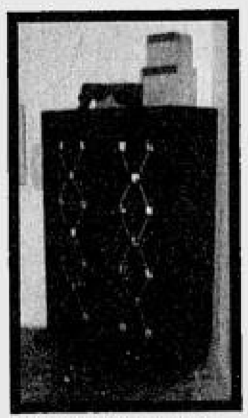
DOESN'T matter if you're black or white





TIC TAC TOE divider

COFFEE and cocktails with Celine Lopez and Maurice Arcache



SKELETONS in the closet armoire

WHERE do you think you're going?

KISH STYLE. Liza Ilarde and Ito Kish

DREAM BOYS. Ito Feliciano and Luis Terry

TF. Fanny Serrano

ISAAC AT KISH

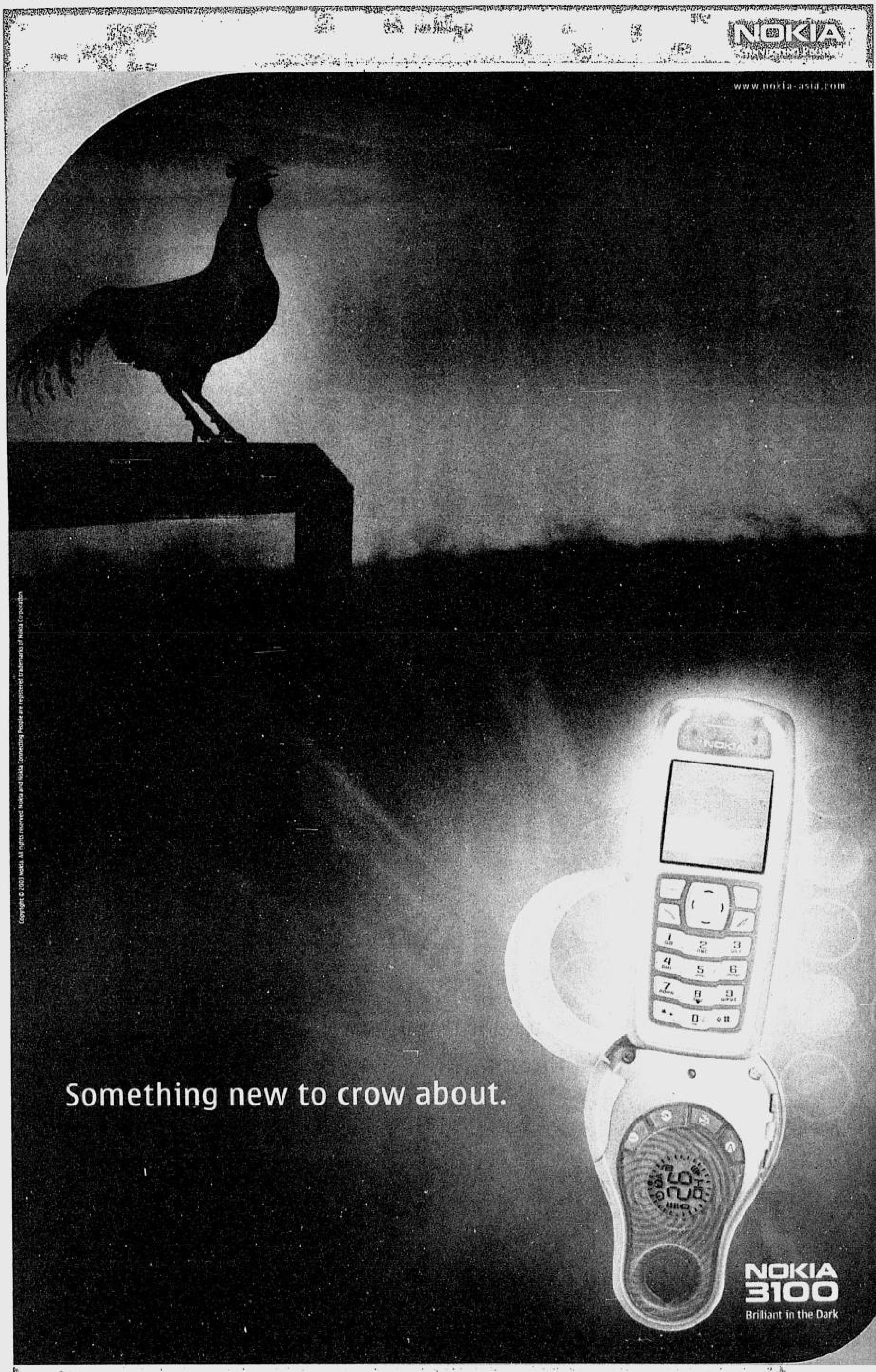
Beating down walls

By Raymund Isaac

A PHOTOGRAPHER designing furniture? Why not? I have been doing almost all the production design for all my shots. I think it will be a natural progression to do furniture as a serious endeavor. Most of the pieces have been inspired by my crazy ideas that crop up during the pictorials. I would like people to view my pieces as fun and functional. Relaxed, conversational pieces that are useful at the same time. Meant to deceive, my pieces seem to be all about photographs at first glance. But a closer inspection is rewarded with revelation. Dividers that can transform into closets and panel pieces. Let curiosity be your guide. Look at them. Play with them. Discover that you can actually personalize them according to your whim.

THE AUTHOR, the artist

The exhibit features eight furniture pieces and thirteen giant photographs printed on watercolor paper. The collection includes a Legally Blonde-inspired poof stool; an armoire/entertainment cabinet that doubles as a miniature gallery; a divider/panel that serves as a treasure cove; and a candle tower that is inspired by Madonna in her Like A Prayer video.



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ABSINTH LIST. Christine San Diego and Morten Bremelhoet

JENNI and Tom Epperson

24/7 WITH JR Isaac

CHALK MATES. Amina Aranaz and Romina Urra-Gonzales

URINETOWN at Kish. Bettina Aspillaga, Bobby Garcia, Elisa Isaac and Cathy Azanza

PINK CHALK. Jane Kingsu and Bebeth Timbol

SUPER Sari Yap of Lifestyle Asia

SATURDAY Super!

Super! friends

Fresh meet

Text and photos by Tina Pamintuan

HOT places, fresh faces. Super! searched the city and found friendly flesh. From sexy sirens to polished partyfolk, drop them a line, say hello and see what happens.

Wanna see your face on our Super! pages? Hit us with your sexiest photo (only printable ones, please) and tell us about yourself.

E-mail us at super@inquirer.com

Enjoy. Super!

HI, I'm Andrea Del Rosario. My porn name is QB. If I had to beat someone up it would be the guy that I'm seeing now. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Angelina Jolie. People say I look like the girl from the Relic Hunter. E-mail me at andreadelrosario2003@yahoo.com .

HI, I'm Gwen Garcia. My porn name is Mau. If I had to beat someone up it would be my friend, who is sooo PLASTIC!!! I wouldn't mind being beat up by Handsome guys!!! Hehe. People say I look like Zang Zhi Yi. E-mail me at gwengarcia@hotmail.com

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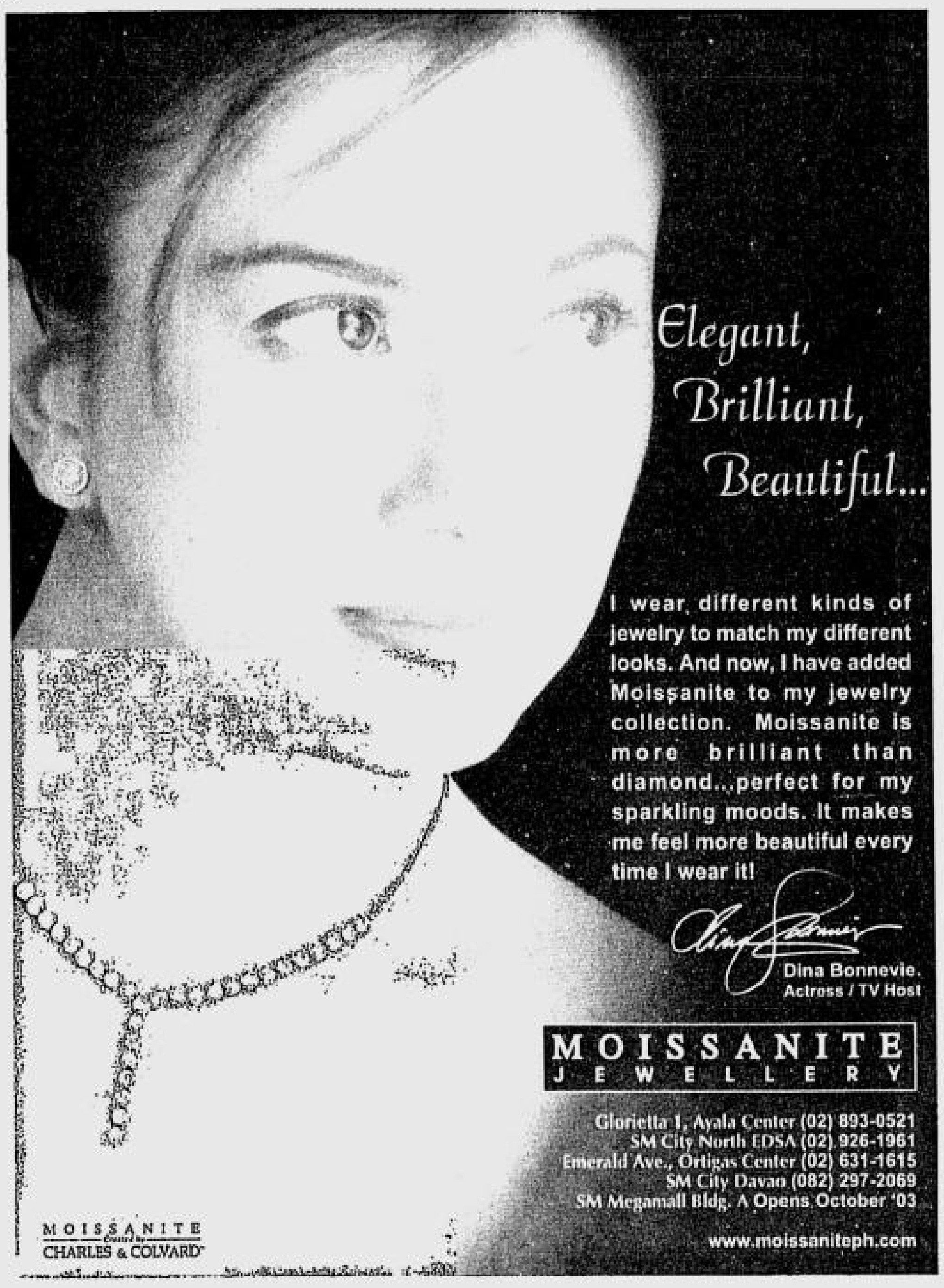

Elegant, Brilliant, Beautiful...

I wear different kinds of jewelry to match my different looks. And now, I have added Moissanite to my jewelry collection. Moissanite is more brilliant than diamond...perfect for my sparkling moods. It makes me feel more beautiful every time I wear it!

Dina Bonnevie.
Actress / TV Host

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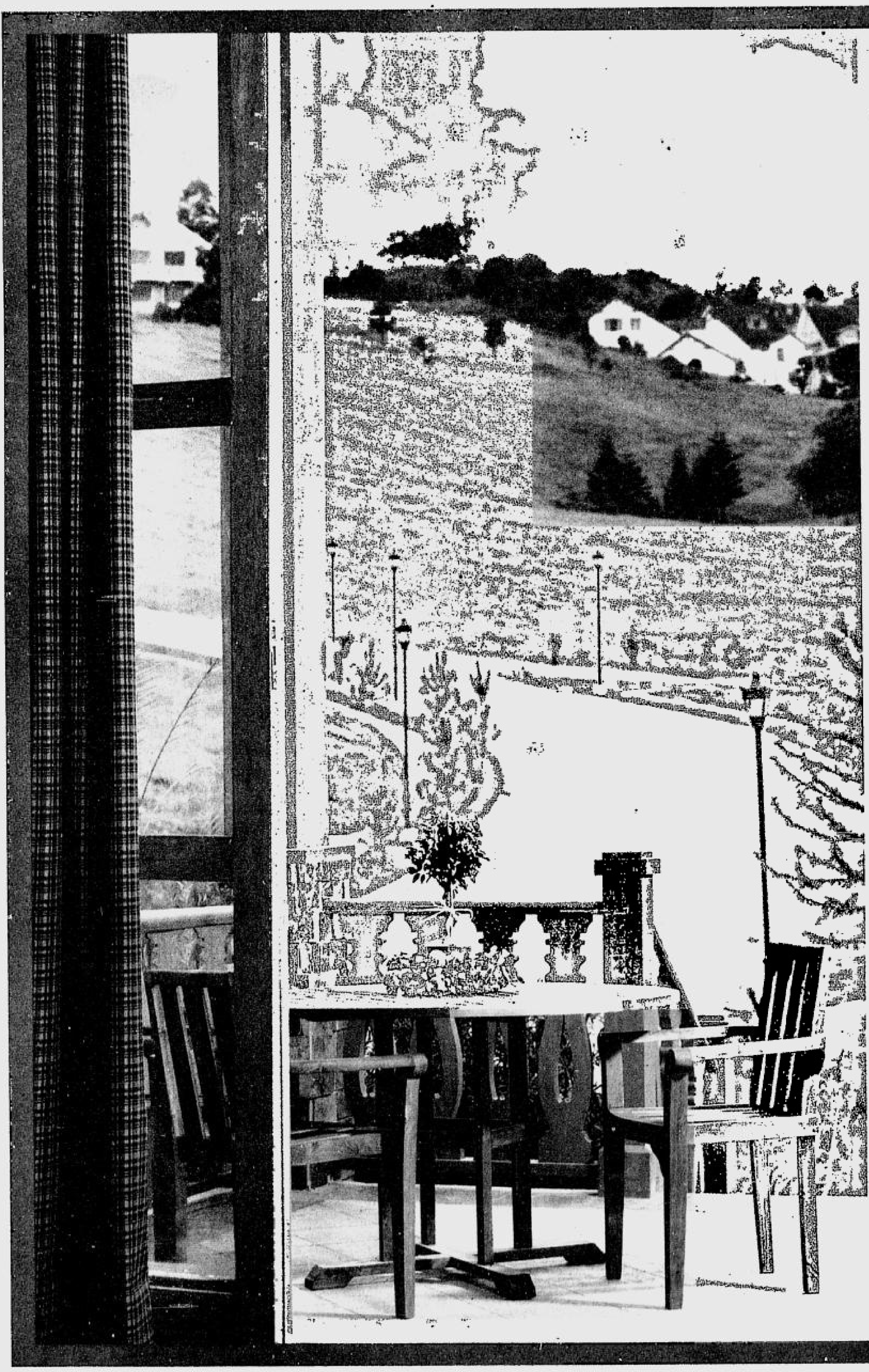

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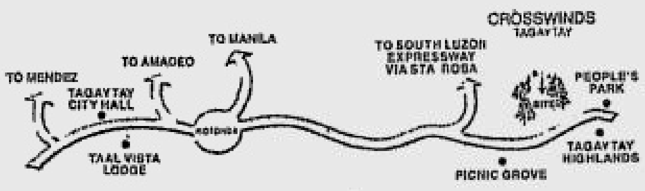
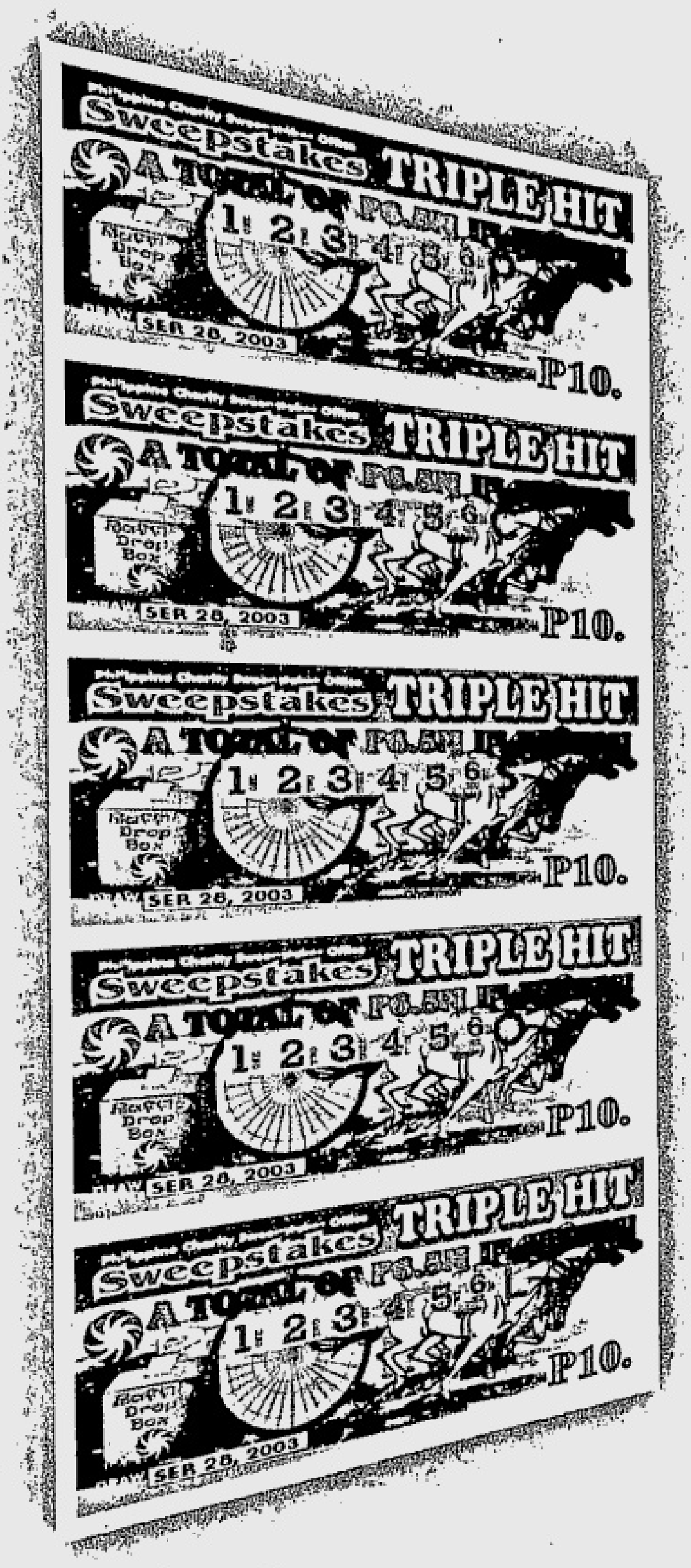


CROSSWINDS
Life is great
Brittany
CORPORATION



Isang ticket, triple ang regalo, triple ang chance manalo!

New "Traditional"

Sweepstakes TRIPLE HIT

September 28, 2003

1st Draw Date

#1 *Suwerte...*

SWEEPSTAKES DRAW

Sa bagong "traditional" sweepstakes, ang isang ticket ay nagkakahalaga ng sampung piso (P10.00). Ito ay may six-number combination at ang bawat combination ay binubuo ng limang units with corresponding letter codes P (Philippine), C (Charity), S (Sweepstakes), O (Office) at L (Lottery).

Ang Sweepstakes Triple Hit draw ay gaganapin isang beses sa isang buwan. Ang mapipiling anim na numero at corresponding letter code ng multi-digit gem ang mag-isang mananalo ng 2million jackpot! Marami pang consolation prizes na pwedeng mapanalunan. Meron ding ambos prize dito.

SWEEPSTAKES TRIPLE HIT PRIZES

Jackpot Prize	Php2,000,000.00
Second Prize	600,000.00
Third Prize	300,000.00

#2 *Saya...*

SPIN-N-WIN

Ang may hawak ng apat na tickets na kapareho ng first prize 6-number combination pero iba ang letter code ay may pagkakataong mag-spin ng roleta sa susunod na Sweepstakes Triple Hit Draw.

SWEEPSTAKES TRIPLE HIT DRAW SCHEDULES

September 28, 2003
October 26, 2003
November 23, 2003
December 21, 2003

Garantisado ang panalo dito! Maaring manalo ng mula P100,000.00 hanggang P250,000.00 pesos.

Kung nabili ang buong limang units o isang "banig" ng nanalong 6-number combination, ang ticket holder ay may pagkakataon mag-spin ng roleta ng apat na beses at manalo ng karagdagang premyo.

#3 *Sorpresa...*

PANGKABUHAYAN RAFFLE

Ang mga non-winning tickets ay may chance pang manalo ng "Pangkabuhayan Showcase".

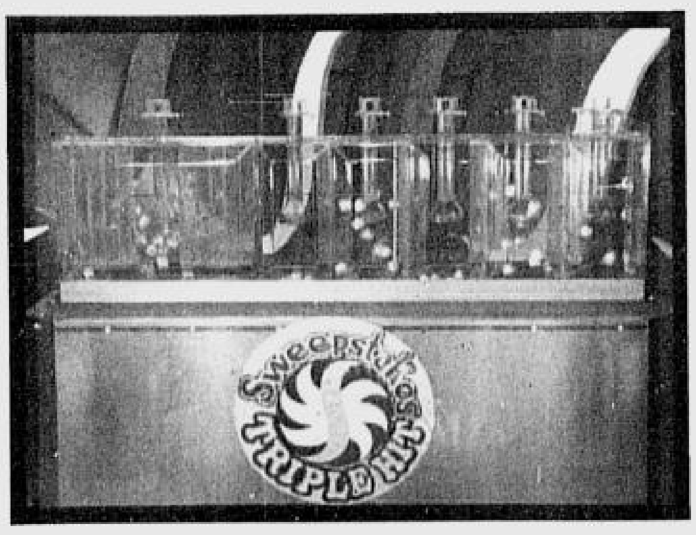
Isulat lamang ang pangalan, tirahan at lagda sa likod ng inyong mga non-winning tickets at ihulog sa mga dropboxes na matatagpuan sa paborito ninyong sweepstakes at lotto outlets o sa mga PCSO Provincial District Offices na malapit sa inyong lugar. Maari ring ipadala ito sa:

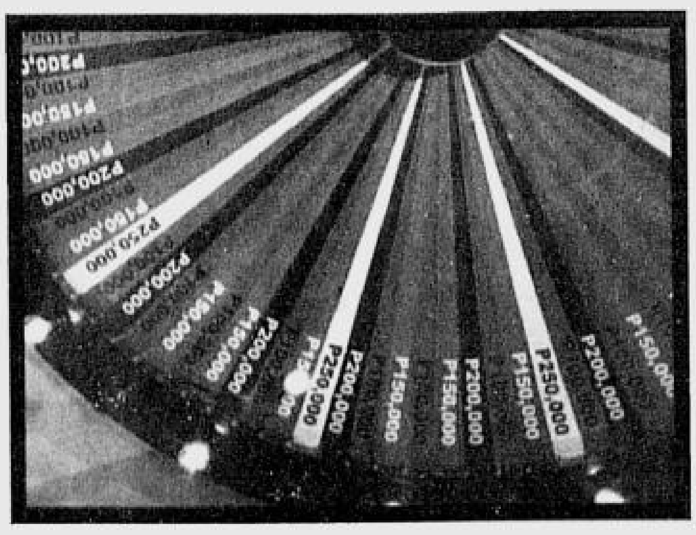
Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office
Sales Department, PCSO Building
E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City

PANGKABUHAYAN SHOWCASE

1st Bunot	*Multicab showcase	worthP150,000
2nd Bunot	*Tricycle or grocery showcase	worthP100,000
3rd Bunot	Cash prize	worthP50,000

* Prizes maybe convertible to cash.





PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE

PCSO Building, E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City

Dear God Replies

Actual Text Conversations on the Dear God Service

SMART

For the better part of the past year, there has been a remarkable phenomenon in the country. It relates to a people reconnecting with the Word of God, quite literally, through the use of their cellphones.

SMART's Dear God service has also rekindled an awareness of universal divine wisdom. Have we forgotten Scripture, of the answers that throughout time provide solace and comfort to lost souls? Dear God provides simple, timeless answers.

If anything, SMART's Dear God service has demonstrated that even a brief visit to the relevant passage in the Bible brings us home to the solution of our predicament, whatever that may be.

These words are our answers, no matter what the situation in life we face daily:

On Giving Thanks

Actual Message:

"ALMIGHTY GOD THANK U VRY MUCH OF OL D BLESSINGS U HAV GIVEN THROUGHOUT MY LIFE..THANK U ALSO OF OL D TRIALS DAT HELP MUCH N DEEPENING OUR FAITH N U. TNX GUD DAY"

Dear God Replies:

'It's never a prob for God! "I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works." (Ps 9:1-2)- Love God

Actual Message:

"YOU KNOW EVRYTM YOU SND ME THE WORD OF GOD I'V LRN A LOT AND I'M GLD THAT DER'S SMEONE WHO IS LSNING TO ME T.Y.V. MUCH!"

Dear God Replies:

'Ang sagot ay mahirap matuklasan. "Ang taong matuwid, masuliranin man, sa tulong ng Diyos agad maiibsan." (Awit 33:20)- Poon

On Hope.. and Reassurance:

Actual Message:

'GUD AM GOD. IM HERE N D DOC. PARA MAG PA CHECK UP. SNA PO LORD GUIDE ME AND MAGNG SUSES PO UNG CHEK S AKN AT SANA PO POSITIVE THNX GOD I KNW U R HERE TNX'

Dear God Replies:

'Wen ur lost in sorrow feeling cold n alne in a dark n starless nyt, a loving hand wil alwys fnd u 2 guide n comfort u. Have u prayed 2 Him lately? GOD LUVS U!"

Actual Message:

'I'm so nervous w/ my exam 2day..Pray 4 me that I may hav d intellect nd determination I much need 2day.'

Dear God Replies:

'God gives help to those hu believe. Ecc 2:25-27: "For God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who is good in His sight." – Love, God'

On Despair..and Solace:

Actual Message:

'GOD preso me pls. Help us.'

Dear God Replies:

'God says no prob! "The Lord is my strength and song, & He has bcome my salvation; He is my God, & I will praise Him & I will exalt Hi." (Ex 15: 1-3) – Love, God

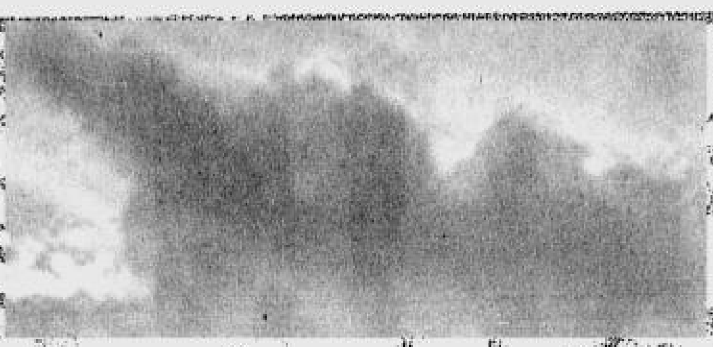
Actual Message:

'My husband seems having an affair, I feel low, hatred and doubt filled my heart."

Dear God Replies:

'D tunnel may b dark, but der is lyt in d end. Plus, I'l give u a flashlight! 2Cor 1:3 "Praise b to God of compassion & of all comfort"- Love, God'

Find for yourself, the warmth and reassurance a text from Dear God brings. Just key in "GOD" and send to463 today and renew a beautiful relationship.



Text to *God* at *463*

Need help? God's Word is just a text away.

CARITAS

Available to SMART and Talk n Text.

Advt.

HI, I'm Dennis Tan.
My porn name is Licker. If I had to beat someone up, it would be Erap. People say I look like a cross between Piolo Pascual and Mark Anthony Fernandez. E-mail me at dentan23@hotmail.com

HI, I'm Kimberly Baradi.
My porn name is Cinnamon Abada. If I had to beat someone up it would be Colin Farell. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Colin Farell. People say I look like Amanda Page. E-mail me at honeykym@hotmail.com.

HI, I'm Albert Adentes.
My porn name is Kinky "Slime" Mabuhay. If I had to beat someone up, it would be The Hulk. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Madonna. People say I look like Orlando Bloom. E-mail me at albertadentes@yahoo.com.

HI, I'm Bea Constantino.
My porn name is *Lola* Madonna. If I had to beat someone up it would be Riela Banez. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Colin Farell. People say I look like my *lola*. E-mail me at bea@bbcmanila.com.

HI, I'm Joleon Tanada.
My porn name Blake. If I had to beat someone up it would be Mr. Rogers. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Alexis Abello. People say I look like Brad Pitt. E-mail me at joleontanada@hotmail.com.

HI, I'm Barbara Santos.
My porn name is I don't think so. If I had to beat someone up it would be I'd rather not say. I wouldn't mind being beat up by absolutely no one. People say I look like ???. E-mail me at bjs_29@hotmail.com.

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Duel
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Tips
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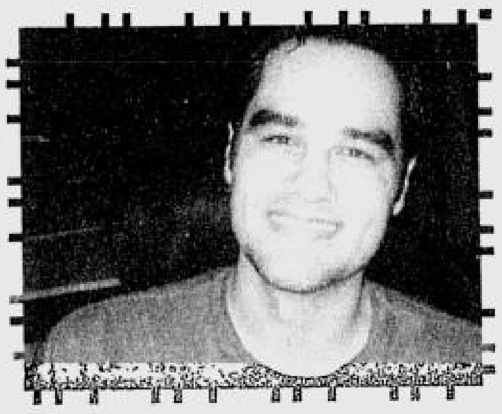
Select
SMART

Fresh meet

From page 11

HI, I'm Rudolph Yaptinchay.
My porn name is Dirk Diggler. If I had to beat someone up, it would be The Hulk. People say I look like Joey from friends. E-mail me at rvy@pacific.net.ph.

HI, I'm Hilary Favila.
My porn name is Laguisha. If I had to beat someone up it would be Barbie!! I wouldn't mind being beat up by Patricia Lopez. People say I look like Vivienne Tan. E-mail me at hilaryass@hotmail.com



HI, I'm James Wallkvist.
My porn name is All Beef Pattie. If I had to beat someone up, it would be Osama Bin Laden. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Charlize Theron. People say I look like John Mayer, Roger Federrer and Dean Cain. E-mail me at Jwalk22@lycos.com

HI, I'm Kristine Chan.
My porn name is Tuxedo Velez. If I had to beat someone up it would be the Pillsbury Dough Boy. I wouldn't mind being beat up by John Cusack or John Travolta. People say I look like Alyssa Milano/Piper from Charmed/Lucy Liu/ Catherine Zeta-Jones. E-mail me at krischan0724@hotmail.com.

HI, I'm Carlo Alfonso.
My porn name is Winter Blake. If I had to beat someone up, it would be Arnold Schwarzenegger. I wouldn't mind being beat up by Kristen Kreuk. People say I look like Tom Welling E-mail me at ariescaliber79@yahoo.com

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ÉLAN
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what's inside what's inside
hmmm! j3
hunky j4
homey j6

Welcome a new world order

By Marge C. Enriquez

"AGE Power will rule the 21st Century, and ... we are woefully unprepared." That's the forecast of **Ken Dychtwald** in "Age Power: How the 21st Century Will Be Ruled by the New World."

Tom Peters, management guru and author of "Re-Imagine!" believes that more than being unready for this paradigm shift, the world seems indifferent or nonchalant towards the boomers and the generation before them. Obsessiveness with youth makes everyone queasy about getting older.

Today, 40 is relatively young. But marketers and lifestyle publications, pay the most attention to tweens, teens and twentysomethings. When I leaf through the pages of the glossies, beauty is seen from the perspective of editors in their 20s and early 30s. They pay little attention to the over-40 bunch, and less to the over-50. When they do stuff like the "Beauty At Any Age" layout, obviously imitated from foreign magazines, representation of the age groups is not always accurate.

There are not enough articles about the joys of middle adulthood.

Athough Peters talks about the maturing population from a marketing perspective—which is an extremely affluent yet untapped sector—he debunks certain long-held beliefs about aging. For instance, that the maturing population is too set in its ways to be open to new ideas; or that they are deeply entrenched in brand loyalties.

He adds that the boomer population is reinventing the meaning of "old." His foremost mantra: Reject "It's 18-44, Stupid!" Embrace "18-44 is Stupid, Stupid!"

Peters declares that the maturing population's attitude today is "I am in charge." "I am active."

He quotes publications on the new "age-appropriate behavior" as saying, "From jogging to plastic surgery, from vegetarian diets to Viagra, (boomers) are fighting to preserve their youth and defy the effects of gravity."—Healthcare Consumerism, "The Information Revolution and Branding."

"Such a critical mass of older women with a tradition of rebellion and independence and a way of making a living has not occurred before in history," said **Gerda Lerner**, historian.

Boomers are not acting their age. Nor do they intend to.

CONSIDER THE CONTRASTS

WAS	IS
Old=Decrepit	Old =Active
Older people don't switch brands	Older people make brands
Fountain of Youth	Freedom of Age
Maturity	Longevity
Running out of the clock	Revving up the engine
Lost earning power	New spending power

Although we are an Eastern culture, we don't seem to treat mature people with respect for their wisdom, as they are more equipped to give others the benefit of experience. Our lives seem to be led by marketers who wield demographics as bible, thus the bias towards youth.

Why will Age Power rule this new millennium? For people who played their cards right all throughout their lives, experience will buff the souls to a shine that is ever more luminous.

Starting anew

I have just returned from my annual vacation in India. Many readers from Manila's social set urged me to write about my experience. They were curious about how I would find respite in Mount Abu, Rajasthan.

For one thing, it was my birthday; I wanted to start the rest of my life on the right note (Okay, I'm as old as Madonna and Sharon Stone). In that magical place, age and time are seen merely as the vehicles in which to gain more self-awareness. This understanding brings with it a freedom from insecurity—about age, in the very least. I wanted to be prepared to move on to a new adventure.

I was hesitant in writing about my Abu experience, knowing for a fact there are many skeptics out there who are still resistant to new ideas or to spirituality. However, I feel it is my duty as a journalist to write about truths that are of guaranteed relevance and consequence to the greater good.

Get into the Halloween Retro Groove at Streetscape!

Come in your hippest 60s and 70s outfit
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- Ogle at the Retro Monster Models as they do their thing on the catwalk.
- Meet celebrities of the 60s and 70s, courtesy of the country's top female impersonators.
- Move to the groove with live entertainment by **Sould Out, Toy Symphony and Retrospect.**

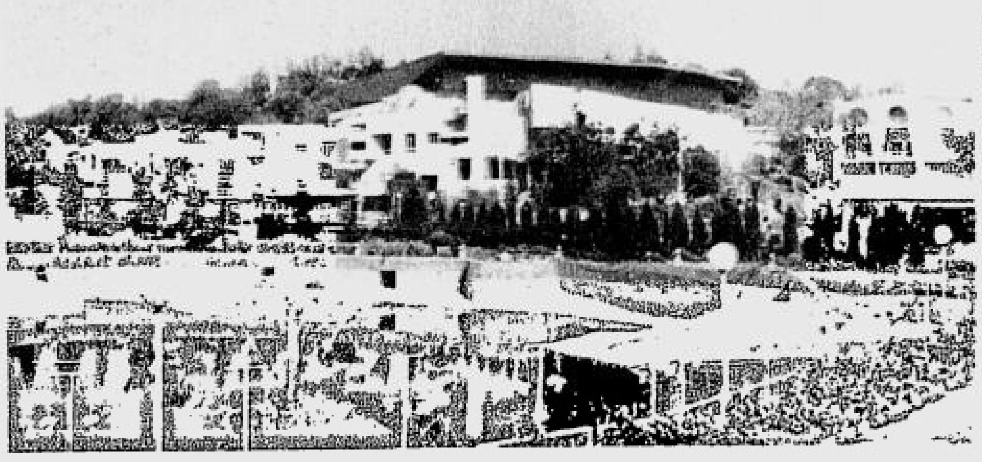
Shangri-La Plaza
Life's a thrill

I take a brisk, invigorating walk to the lake. Just before dawn the sky is dark, but the moon shimmers like a golden plate. Holy men from a nearby temple ring their bells and chant

MADHUBAN. Heaven on earth

My Forest of Honey

By Marge C. Enriquez


THE ACADEMY for a Better World is a sprawling campus, replete with a theater, seminar rooms, dining halls, dormitories and other facilities, amidst incredible flora and fauna.

IF James Hilton were alive today and attended the "Peace of Mind" (POM) retreat on a hill station in India, he would have discovered the real Shangri-la, which means "Heaven on Earth."

There is an idyllic place where people conquer fear of death; live harmoniously with each other and where all desires are fulfilled that's not found in Tibet, as Hilton wrote in his novel, but in northern Rajasthan. It's available to anybody who's got an open mind.

The annual retreat is organized by the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU), an international NGO affiliated with the United Nations. For a week, influential people from diverse professions, religions and nationalities take the risk of emerging from their comfort zones to embark on a personal journey of self-awareness. For the first couple of days, the participants are usually skeptical about everything that goes on. At the end of the week, even the most widely-traveled among them end up in tears and swear that the intense purity and love in this place is unequalled by any experience anywhere else.

The POM is set in Mount Abu, still green with foliage in spite of the dryness all around. Abu Road, which leads to the hill station, overlooks the great desert region strewn with boulders sculpted by the strong winds.

Beginnings

During the colonial era, the British enjoyed the summers here under the desert palms, eucalyptus and oleanders of Mount Abu, away from the dry, dusty plains of Rajasthan. Not only is it known as the holy place for the Jains and Hindus; legend has it that it is destined to be a sanctuary for legions of deities and holy men meditating on The Source..

It is said that the powerful vibrations of Mount Abu pulled the family of the BKWSU to establish its headquarters-cum-university and hostel. The school was established in 1937 in Hydrabad, Sindh, by a jeweler-philanthropist named Dada Lekh Raj. A visionary and a man of exemplary ideals, he foresaw the advancement of science and technology, the empowerment of women, the rise of spirituality alongside a decaying world and Armaggedon. His mental powers were unprecedented, so that he became instrumental in imparting divine teachings. He established a boarding school that taught character formation and strengthened core values.

The BKWSU has meditation centers in over 80 countries. During the cool months of October, guests from all over the world gather to unclutter their minds. They are billeted at the Academy for a Better World (better known as Gyan Sarovar, or "Lake of Knowledge," a self-sufficient community run by solar power. It feels like being in the middle of nowhere, as the place is surrounded by mountains and desert plains. Yet one can stay there for days without getting any withdrawal symptoms (from modern civilization).

Setting foot on the place for the first time, visitors are shrouded in peace. This is why it is easy for first-timers to learn the Raja Yoga technique, with open eyes.

Meditation

"That's the beauty of it," explains BK Mohini, the institution's United Nations representative in New York. "You look at everyone with the same awareness as you are in. You are not to be affected by anything because you're mentally prepared to remain peaceful while walking, talking and doing actions in the same awareness. You can't close your eyes. You have to keep them open to stay connected with Time, with the Creation and the Creator. Time signals me by saying 'This is what I must do.' Looking at the Creation, I learn to share, and by thinking of the Creator, I think of what I have to receive. Meditation helps to find the common space where we are able to touch each other with similar positive qualities and share it more and more."

That is the essence of the POM retreat. Upon arising, guests enjoy a few minutes of silence. There's an adage that says there's no such thing as a bad day when you meditate. After the morning rituals, they are served Indian breakfast—piping hot *chai* (tea flavored with cardamom), and food prepared in an atmosphere that's free of negativity. Everything is a ritual, from the preparation of the food, to the meal service—all executed with simplicity, yet with great aplomb.

For nourishing the soul, there are lectures on the self, God, karma, Time, our concept of world history. There are also picnics and sight-seeing trips, and workshops conducted by seasoned facilitators and teachers. There are no gurus in the BKWSU setup because this educational system is founded on self-reliance and knowing God as an Experienced Reality, rather than on blind submission to a human being.

Tearful

When guests share their experiences on the last day, they are always in tears.

"This is a safe place to being spiritually authentic!" exclaims Bill, from Australia.

"There's a feeling of partnership as there are no labels of who's who, or religion and race," says an Israeli.

"I could translate the meaning of life, its mystery and aspirations to the Divine from what I've seen here," says a Brazilian.

Former Tourism Secretary Jose Antonio Gonzalez's sharing was one of the most applauded. "My life was one rollercoaster ride. Years ago I was a (Cabinet) Minister and was very wealthy. I became bankrupt. After coming to the Brahma Kumaris, I realized that I had participated in all the vices. I'm tired of fighting."

"The BKs rock!" declares Mike from Manchester, England.

Asked why the emotional parting, Nirwair Singh, one of the most venerated seniors, explains: "The human soul, from any country or religion in the world, is searching for real inner peace and unconditional spiritual love. These are not readily available. Only spiritually enlightened people can provide those vibrations, and the language of the eyes, and the uplifting words. It's what they experience here. Secondly the guests feel that the whole world is one divine family. When they arrive, they may be doubters, but in a couple of days, they feel very much at home because of the atmosphere, and of the spiritual understanding. This helps them to recognize their own well-being. They start feeling true waves of happiness. That's why when they are about to leave, there are tears of love. On the one side, they have discovered wonderful treasures of happiness and peace. On the other, they feel they are leaving home."

Whether a first-timer or a frequent visitor, the place is looked upon as the "Land of Blessings."

"On being here, one gets attuned with one's own reality. This empowers the self to be positive, to be spiritually powerful and to connect with the Supreme Being. That automatically brings blessings," says Nirwair. "Blessing means something which helps the soul to feel comfortable inside. It makes one feel restful and very powerful to face circumstances which otherwise seem extremely difficult. The inner strength developed is a blessing from the Supreme."

My home

I've been visiting Mount Abu, way before the POM started. There are advanced courses on leadership, meditation and values designed for those who've been practicing vegetarianism, meditation and studying the discourses for a long time. For me, it is also going home to a place where I feel totally accepted, regardless of my idiosyncrasies. The emotional sustenance that I get from that place motivates me to pay attention to myself despite my frequent lapses.

My favorite place is Madhuban, which in Hindi means "Forest of Honey." The compound is the original site of the university-headquarters, where many people have been overwhelmed by mystical experiences. The culture is familial, unlike the formal set-up of the Academy for a Better World in Gyan Sarovar. The institution is led by the pioneers of the institution, mostly women, who are called *'dadi'* or elder sister. But the founder trained them to be constantly motherly in their dealings. Although the buildings and facilities are antiquated, everything about it reeks with purity. And, I have also established a strong bond with the residents.

At 3:30 a.m., a song about the hours of nectar wafts through the dormitories. At 4 a.m., the day is welcomed by a symphony of silence in the meditation hall. Afterwards, I go to the milk room where the server solicitously prepares my *chai*. He gingerly pours milk into the pan, adds two tablespoonful of black tea, a dash of sugar crystals and *masala*. He swirls the pan gently until the tea starts to froth and pours it into my stainless steel glass and hands it to me with gentleness and royalty. The milk thickens on top and is washed down after a few minutes.

Transformation

I take a brisk walk to nearby Nakki Lake. At 5:15 a.m., the sky is dark but the moon shimmers like a golden plate. It is an invigorating walk, accompanied by the music from the chirping crickets and quacking ducks. It is an invigorating walk. By 6 a.m., holy men from a nearby temple ring their bells and chant. The sky slowly changes colors.

After the morning shower, I attend the daily discourse and spend the rest of the day visiting the Global Hospital for my annual check-ups or just chilling out in my inner citadel.

In Madhuban, one of the most significant places is the marbleized Tower of Peace, which signifies the principles of right living.

"If someone understands the teachings and applies them in their lives, they can be the tools of total transformation," says Nirwair.

Aside from the meditation room, there is a hut where the founder of the institution used to sit in intense meditation. Nirwair recalls that when he went to see the founder inside the hut some 40 years ago, he suddenly felt transported to another realm.

"His eyes were full of love, affection and power," recalls Nirwair. People who sit in that hut share powerful experiences. In fact, all questions are answered when one sits in the meditation room or in the hut. The mind experiences amazing clarity and power in those environments..

Asked why Madhuban brings special experiences, Denise Lawrence, a British communicator who has taken up residence there, explains, "God walked on earth, in this land, and impregnated it with his Nature. The atmosphere of that is still there and is still being sustained by those who meditate."

She adds that psychics had seen huge auras and streams of light where the founder had often walked, and were healed of discomforts when they followed the path from the meditation room to the Tower of Peace. "I've had the experience of walking through the gates of Madhuban and I'm totally depleted. Then I am filled with life with energy that I could run the whole day."

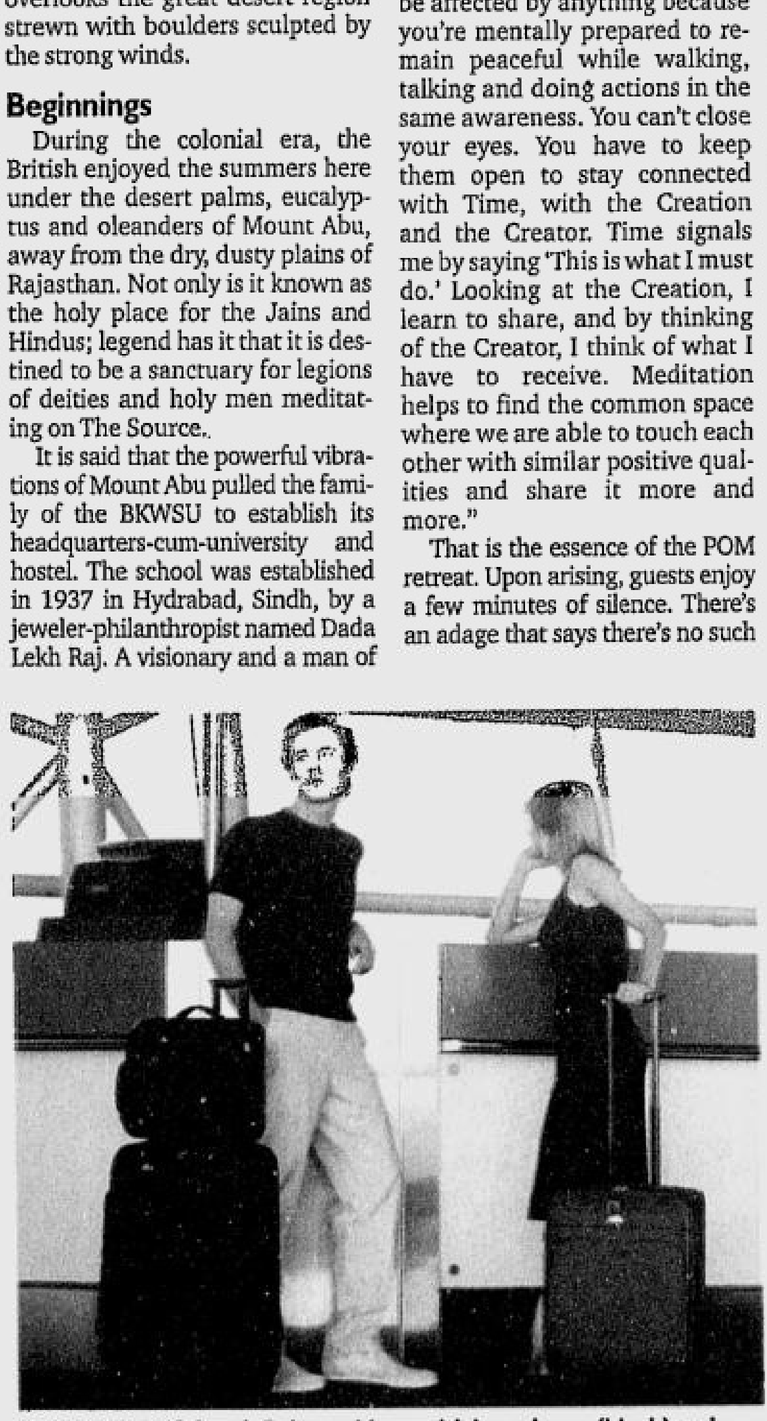
Denise enjoys the high-intensity of energy in Madhuban. "It is spoken of as the Hall of Mirrors. If you stay long enough, you see everything about yourself. You cannot hide from yourself. Everything is exposed. Whatever there is in you, it will be brought up in front of you, and you have to be able to look at yourself right in the eye.

"Spiritual practice means you've got to know yourself—the light side and the dark side. You've got to come to terms with yourself. Because you're going to be with yourself for eternity."

Asked how to come to terms with our demons, she replies, "You just do it. You just have to see yourself, understand yourself, accept yourself. As long as you are alive, you continue to work on yourself. If you are ready to do that, if you want truth at any cost, and if you want to let anything false get stripped off of you, whether it hurts or not, then you can handle it."

Denise cites predictions that Mount Abu would eventually be known worldwide. "In the beginning of the institution, people had mystical experiences. When the world gets unstable, people will come running here. Anybody who knows about this place will start the process. The spiritual experiences will start again. It's like a button you press."

For details of the 2004 Peace of Mind in Mount Abu, Rajasthan call the Brahma Kumaris at 890-7960 and 922-9231.


SAMSONITE'S Spark Spinner 66 cm with board case (black) and Spark 50 cm (red)

The power to pack up

THROUGH years of sustained popularity, Samsonite's Spark line has undergone an impressive series of improvements to enhance its functionality and overall mobility.

The 550 Series Spark line features new high-performance wheeling systems and extra comfort upgrades. The latest additions—a functional beauty case and duffel with central lockable opening—bring yet more comfort and versatility to the line. Stylish, lightweight and extremely user-friendly, the line responds to the needs and priorities of today's travelers.

More stability

Over time, Samsonite's continuous investment in research to develop hassle-free travel solutions has yielded some breakthrough results. Among them are the multifunctional Spinner cases with rigid ABS base and four 360-degree swiveling wheels that allow a traveler to choose between towing (on two wheels) and rolling (on four wheels) his suitcase. This exceptional flexibility helps a traveler navigate narrow and crowded environments more efficiently.

Two expandable Big Wheel Upright cases sport larger wheel diameters that provide outstanding maneuverability, stability and silence, even on bumpy surfaces. The unique base shell construction also ensures stability during expansion.

All Big Wheel and traditional Spark Upright cases are now equipped with the Stud & Wheel Housing system that protects the corners and guarantees stability in virtually all conditions.

Less stress

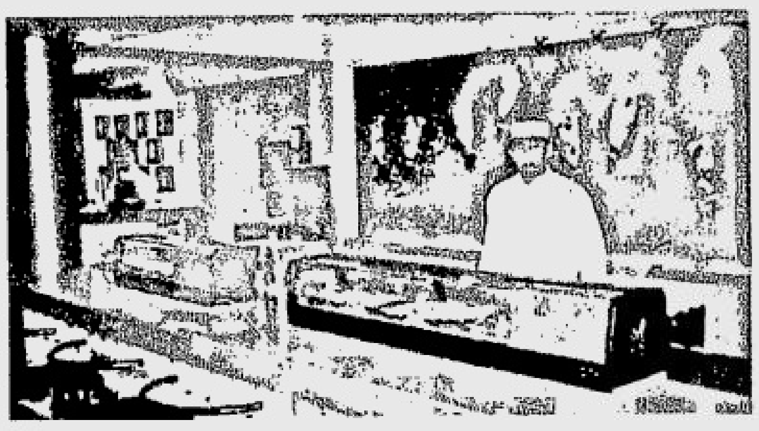
The new Tingle II beauty case offers women on the move the efficiency and no-nonsense comfort they crave. Meanwhile, the new duffel Splendour II with its wide, central lockable opening and stiff base is guaranteed to change the way travelers feel about packing and carrying.

Exceptionally light and comfortable to handle, the duffel offers more volume and maintains its unique shape at all times.

In restyling the Spark Series, Samsonite scrutinized every detail for potential quality and concept improvements, resulting in: U-shaped pockets for enhanced access; additional corner, base and side protection; lockable outside pockets; top-mounted three-digit zipper combination lock; recessed side and top carrying handles; and discrete ID tags integrated in the wheeling handle.

The new line is available in travel shops, department stores, and the Samsonite flagship store at Level II, Podium. Or visit www.samsonite.com.

Invading the airbase



By Meluchi A. Rivera
Contributor

MUCH as I love Japanese food, to what lengths would I go to get it? I mull this over as I prepare for a journey whose aim is to partake of Zen's patented fare in its newest outlet. As it happens, this is located in the former Clark Airbase in Angeles, Pampanga about a hundred kilometers away or, I presume, just a two-hour drive. The philosophical question has taken on a literal dimension.

As the van crawls through city traffic at 10:30 a.m., I steel myself for an even slower crawl through the North Expressway, now undergoing heavy repairs. There is a tangle of cars at North Avenue and we make it past the Balintawak tollgates no sooner than 11:10. We navigate the counter-flow lanes along Valenzuela and Meycauayan, then make good time from thereon. We glide on freshly-laid asphalt before San Fernando, take the Angeles exit and cross the gates of the Clark Special Economic Zone at 12:30, exactly two hours after leaving Quezon City.

Not bad at all, I muse silently. I actually found the drive pleasant. Was it the company, perhaps? My young daughter is with us, on her insistence. Also my two culinary mentors: mom and dad.

Incredibly good

Zen's familiar red sign hangs in front of a building that had once been living quarters for American officers. It faces the Holiday Inn inside the lush, tree-lined compound of the Mimosa resort. We disembark at its doorstep, where hedges have been transformed into a bonsai forest, complete with a landscaped wet-and-dry pond by Edille Paras, a visual artist from Pampanga.

Inside, Angeles-based designer Roberto Melchor "Popo" David has kept the structure's main bones intact, including its original wood floors. In collaboration with owners Paul Cuenca and Mary Ann Tinio, he fashioned a more youthful, contemporary look for this Zen outlet. He enlarged the front windows, raised the ceiling, added geometric patterns via grillwork and cabinetry, and used a palette of soft grays punctuated with shots of red and orange.

The setting is conducive to a long, relaxed lunch, and we nearly lose sight of our mission. But Cuenca and his staff are on hand and ready. They offer us glasses of tofu and green tea shake, then quickly set out our meal before us.

We start with the deceptively simple salad, served with two dressings. We favor the vinaigrette with its tangy-sweet blend of mustard, garlic, onions, soy sauce and crushed apples. To the usual greens is added *pako*, tiny-leafed edible wild ferns which flourish in the area. My parents, a duo of usually hard-to-please, largely self-taught epicures, are already impressed.

As I take bites of the succulent oyster fry (oysters in light tempura batter), Cuenca explains Zen's foray into the land of *sisig* and *tocino*. An "incredibly good offer" on the rental from the Clark Development Co. prompted them to take one look. What they found was a good market made up of expats employed by Clark locators, as well as locals "who used to go all the way to Manila for good Japanese food."

Picking favorites

Since opening on Sept. 11, word of Zen has spread quickly through the small city. David, who has joined us for the meal, reveals that 100 walk-in dinner guests showed up the previous Saturday.

And why shouldn't Angeleños be excited? Zen is a well-established name in Manila's restaurant circuit. For prices 10 to 15 percent lower than the Manila outlets, the traditional favorites can be recounted by the chefs. They even tweak the classics for new takes to offer diners.

Take the rest of the meal before me: the selections are deliberately off the beaten path. The continental *maki* is an interesting fusion of East and West flavors, a California roll with the added flavor of bacon, olive oil and basil. The *maguro tuna* with *miso* is a new way to love tuna sashimi, bathed as it is in a savory sauce of honey, soy sauce, fermented soybean and sesame seeds.

The mixed seafood tossed in *kimchi* is a hit with dad. It is wonderfully spicy but not paralyzingly so, and should be a great accompaniment to beer or cocktails (the place turns into a bar after dinner hours).

My favorite is the *uni* tempura. Fans of raw sea urchin should try this at least once, just to feel that novel warmth and crunch of fried batter before the soft, buttery *uni* oozes onto the taste buds.

A close second (and my parents' pick) is the rib-eye *teppanyaki*. The version at Clark comes with three sauces, a concession to Pampangueños' love for *sawsawan* (dips). Zen's signature sauce has just the right balance of saltiness and sweetness coming from ground sesame seeds, garlic, crushed apples and orange juice on a *mirin* and soy sauce base.

Such is the effect of happy satiety, that dessert and the return trip are a blur. A little past 3 p.m., we are bundled back into the van. We find ourselves back in the city by 5 p.m.

We accomplished our mission, right on schedule. And I have found the answer to my philosophical-literal question.

For reservations, call (045) 5996655.

ZEN: Interiors conducive to a long, relaxed meal

'Furniturescapes': art from the heart

By Ernest Santiago
Contributor

LANDSCAPE architect Armando Cruz's vision is literally cast in stone. His organic "furniturescapes" are found in the gardens and patios of congressmen, senators and one President.

Cruz started out with woodwork, as well as steel fabrication, in 1975. He complemented this endeavor by collecting rare plants and ancient stones from Oriental sites.

ARMANDO Cruz's passion is cast in stone.

His passion has become his trademark—combining plants, rocks water and wood, granite, mahogany and wood to create a relaxing, tropical ambience. Even his own home is a repository of rare old wood, metal glass and stone, referred to by those who have seen it as "The Museum of the World."

Cruz's first love is stone, particularly the Asian varieties. He says their shape, color and size make them easy to use in design and structure. He incorporates their organic shapes in tables, bars, garden statues and other accent pieces. One signature piece is a patio dining table made of glass, stone and iron, and with a waterfall setup as base, guests can dine while listening to the soothing, gurgling sounds of water.

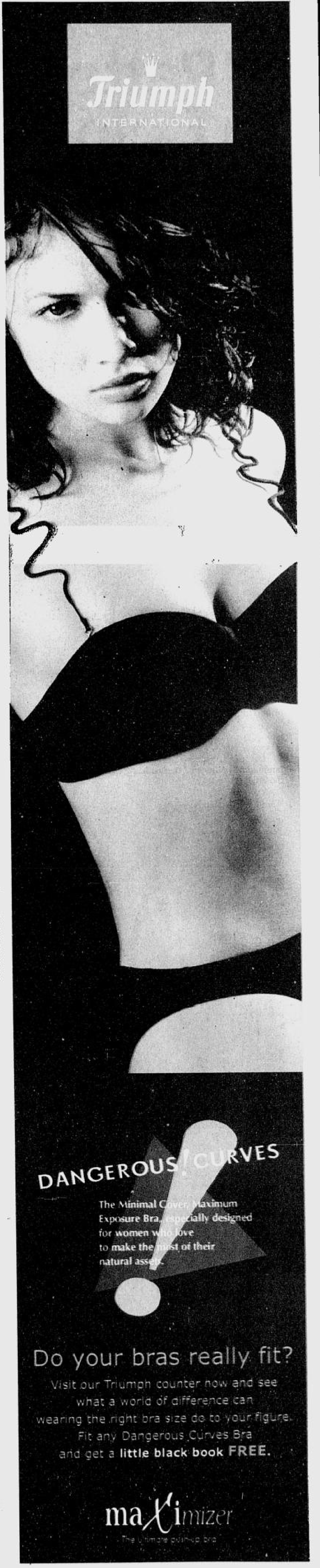
All it takes to create beautiful designs that blend with the environment, Cruz says, are imagination and passion.

He dreams of a Paradise where Man and Nature live in perfect balance and harmony.

"In terms of work," he says, "I'm not commercial. I sometimes find myself on the losing end. Clients demand, 'Why should I pay a million pesos (for that)? It's only stone.'"

Still, he believes that the Filipino can be uplifted through art from the heart, which is priceless.

Amando Cruz's place is located on Cabrera Road, Sitio Burol, Taytay, Rizal. Tel. 451-0257.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INTERNATIONAL
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The Minimal Cover, Maximum Exposure Bra, especially designed for women who love to make the most of their natural assets.
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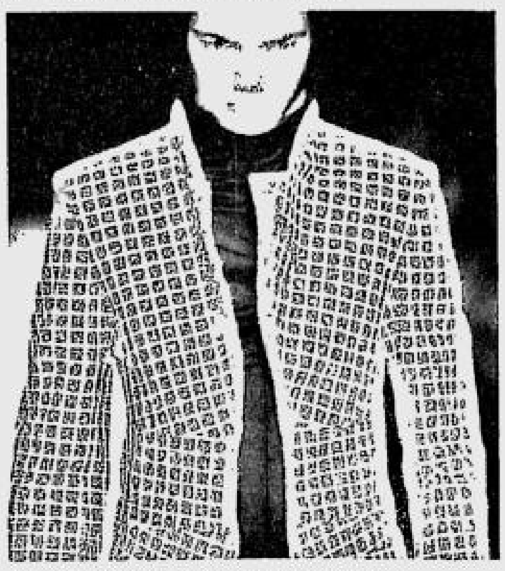
'Patterns' in Belgium's MoMu Mode Museum


WALTER Van Beirendonck, Winter Collection 1999-2000

By Leovino Ma. Garcia
Contributor

I RECENTLY had the good fortune of experiencing a unique exhibition called "Patterns" at the MoMu Mode Museum in Belgium.

The museum, which opened in September last year, brought together a "very diverse collection of clothing, lace, embroidery, fabrics and tools for artisanal textile processing, mostly from the Southern Netherlands." In a sense, the museum's holdings constitute a "collective wardrobe" of Flemish and Dutch society containing "five centuries of recollections of both the high bourgeoisie and the ordinary people." Recent additions are contemporary Belgian fashion creations.

The MoMu presents its clothing and textile collections according to a dynamic exhibition policy that brings out not only the visual but also the tactile and auditory aspects. This makes for a sensual artistic experience. The MoMu also aims to create a context for fashion that provides access to social, political, and cultural phenomena. After all, fashioning and wearing clothes are a way of dealing with one's history. To paraphrase Brillat-Savarin: "You are what you wear." Fashion is the "memory" of a people, a country, and a culture. This idea of fashion as a form of recollection may seem surprising, since fashion is often only considered as constantly changing, whimsical, capricious. This interplay of the ephemeral and the eternal makes fashion fascinating food for thought.

No-man's land

The organizing team behind "Patterns" explored ways of showing and interpreting a no man's land—that zone "where things that happen are not clear, and which can be directed by intuition and knowledge."

Clothing is made for the body. But when a piece of clothing gets exhibited in a museum, the body for which it is made is eliminated. Fashion museums employ artificial mannequins to approximate the real body. They end up with an artifact. The challenge is how to prevent a fashion museum from becoming a mausoleum.

It is here that the dressmaker's pattern can help. As a technical guide, the pattern is a two-dimensional transition between the three-dimensional body and the finished piece of clothing. Every pattern holds within it the potential garment and, therefore, the potential body.

The pattern is a practical instrument, much like the script for the film director, the negative for the photographer, the sketch for the painter, and the blueprint for the engineer. The pattern then is an abstract code that can be interpreted only by the initiated.

Technique of making

There is an intimate relationship between the designer and the pattern-maker. The designer provides sketches, fabric samples; he or she may suggest colors and an atmosphere. The designer offers a unified proposal that the pattern-maker breaks down into shapes, seams, and points.

The pattern does not reproduce a model (like a fashion illustration) but makes a model or structure. Here, three tactics are at work—selection, projection, and scale. A good comparison is the geographical map where elements are left out or included. A map is not a photograph but a filtered selection. Like a map, the pattern only retains what helps to arrive at the destination, the finished piece.

Making a model is also "projection." The pattern projects a three-dimensional object onto a flat surface. In his stimulating essay, "The Consciousness of a Seam," in the exhibit catalogue, Dirk Lauwaert waxes poetic over the pattern paper: "It is a warm yellow. It rustles and crackles. It makes a sound that instantly distinguishes it from other kinds of paper. It is dry to the touch but looks oily, is not transparent, yet the glow shines through it. It is translucid. Graphite from a pencil adheres in the fine pores with the keenness of melted butter."

Projection always occurs "in scale." The design is given without size. It is the task of the maker to project the pattern within a range of sizes. In this production phase of the interplay between body, design and fabric, the pattern-maker becomes the mediator between the abstract and the concrete, the general and the specific.

Designer's signature

Until now, the aesthetic capital of the pattern has not been explored despite its being a basic tool in the fashion designer's workplace. The pattern sheds light on clothing and fashion. It reminds us that clothing and fashion, like architecture and sculpture, are arts of space. Lauwaert also shares some philosophical insights on clothing and fashion which I must quote extensively to conclude this evocation of an aesthetic feast for the mind and for the senses:

"The seam is like the film editor's splice… In the case of the pattern, too, cutting off is not a goal in itself, but the prerequisite for stitching together. The place where the splice, where the seam is put, determines the energy and hence the soul of the clothing. Deciding where to put the seam in a garment—as in a film—is a technical decision, but also an aesthetic one, a sensual decision. The seam is the 'signature line' of a design… The line of drapery cannot be repeated. It is in permanent motion. The line of the pattern, in contrast, is set; where it is put is crucial. That line is not the inspiration of the wearer but of the designer. That line is stitched in place. It is the signature of a designer, the tattooing of the fabric."

VANDEVORST
A.F. VANDEVORST, "Blessed" Winter Collection 2000-2001

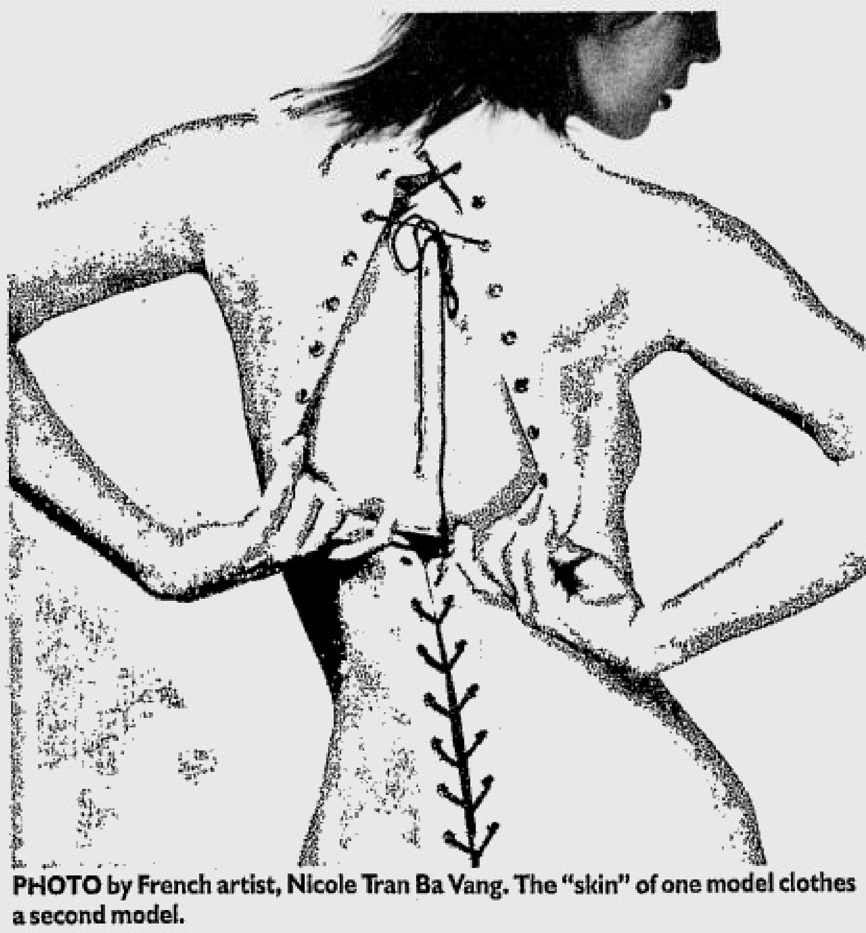


PHOTO by French artist, Nicole Tran Ba Vang. The "skin" of one model clothes a second model.

FOREVER YOUNG

MACUJA-ELIZALDE with daughter Missy

SEVIDAL gets savvy with her students.

A DANCER'S chronological age doesn't necessarily dictate the body's suitablity for high-intensity activity. Many people have "young" bodies--supple and resilient builds--throughout their lives.

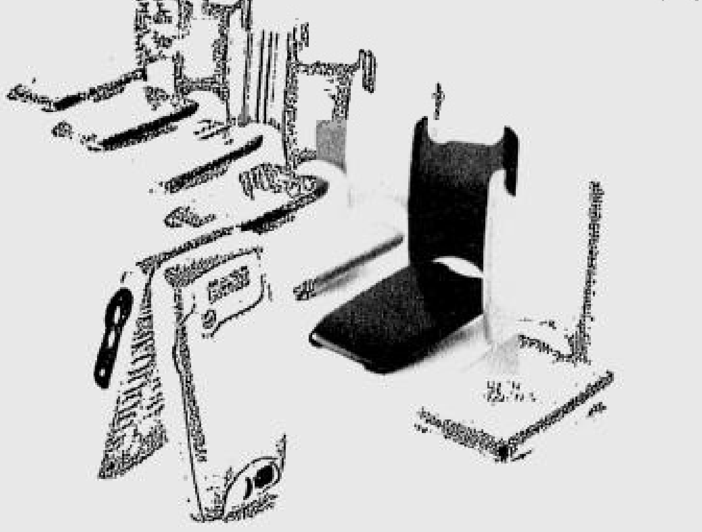
When a dancer matures, he/she has more experience to draw on which helps round the edges and fill up phrases of the dance. There's no limit to improving technique, and the best part is developing the ability to truly understand what dancing is about.

Take it from the likes of Ballet Manila's artistic director Lisa Macuja-Elizalde, 39, who dances as if she's never given birth or experienced injuries; and teacher Perry Sevidal, 45, who's got muscles of steel.

Dancer Teri Loren once wrote: "Never make the assumption that you're too old for something you really want to do until you've given yourself a fair chance. Your desire and motivation can mean ten times as much as your age in enabling you to reach your goals. And don't listen to spoilsports as though (age is) some kind of disease. It is a simple fact that should be treated in proportion to the real part it plays in your life."

Perry Sevidal Ballet offers ballet from toddlers to mothers. Call 8953162 and 8957812. Located at 8883 Sampaloc Avenue, San Antonio Village, Makati.

Lisa Macuja's Circus de Ballet presents "Cancan" and "Belen" every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Aliw Theater, Star City Complex. 7:30 pm until February. "Princess of the Moon" will premiere in November.



'Oooh, aaah, how cute!'

The SE Z600 will surely add to the never-ending dilemma of what cell phone one should have

By Cherish Garcia-Hernandez
Contributor

FILIPINOS are quick to spot new phones. I know that now. Every time I whip out the Sony Ericsson Z600, people start asking about it. Especially when I changed the cover from blue to the "Paul Smith-type" stripes, it really started attracting attention. I mean, literally "oohs" and "ahhs" on "how cute" it is.

And the more I myself look at it, the more I'm convinced: it's a darn good-looking phone.

Loaded with all the features of SE T610, the Z600 boasts a clamshell design with accessories like "style-up" covers that supposedly reflect the user's moods and emotions. I don't know about moods and emotions, but changing covers to go with my clothes sounds good to me. These replaceable front and back covers are a first for the clamshell case.

Having used the T610 earlier, I can't help but compare the two. Since they have almost identical features—like the now-obligatory built-in camera, 32 voice polyphonic ring tones, a variety of user interface themes, Tri-band, Bluetooth, WAP, GPRS, and MMS capabilities—the differences would boil down to design and peripheral accessories.

Design-wise, they are both stylish. I have to say that Sony Ericsson phones of late have been very sophisticated-looking with the sturdiness that their Nokia counterparts seem to lack. The Z600 has an edge in the funkiness factor. The covers' colors and designs are playful and fun.

The phone is also very small, with a folded size of 90 x 48 x 27 mm and a weight of 106 grams. And yet when you open it, the screen is big, with a 65,536 TFD display and a resolution of 128 x 160 pixels. The MD-TFD or Mobile Digital Thin Film Diode is a display developed especially for mobile phones. It has a high speed response for showing video and animation, high visibility for both indoors and outdoors, and high resolution.

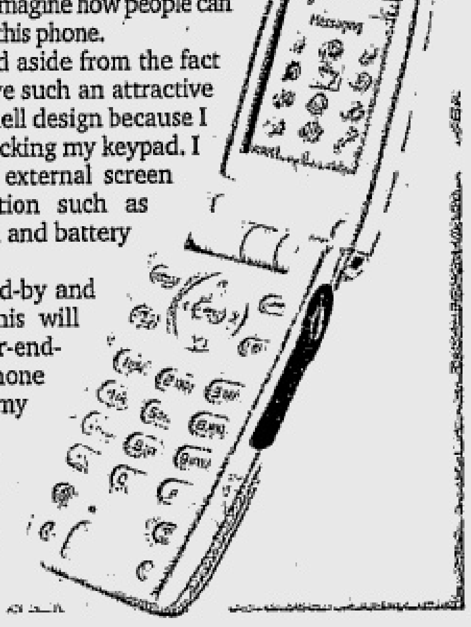
Another thing I noticed is fantastic reception. I'm talking about clear and crisp sounds no matter where I am. Could it have something to do with the speaker in the rear? The sound quality is really amazing, the best I've had ever.

The Quick Share function is also utilized on the Z600, and although the 352 x 288 pixel resolution of the camera doesn't offer pictures of the most sizzling quality, this function makes it easy to send Multi Media Messages with fewer steps as well as drag and drop pictures from a PC to the Z600 and vise-versa via Bluetooth.

Apple fans will be happy to know that they can keep the contact and calendar information on the MAC synchronized with the Z600. They can also interact via Bluetooth and isync, Apple's free synchronization software.

The Z600 also has a music DJ that allows easy composing of personalized ring tones in a couple of minutes. I played around with the Bass, Percussion and Keyboard for a while and came up with the ghastliest ring tone. Those who are not musically challenged should have a blast. The Music Hands-free HBM-30 accessory can also be used in conjunction with the Z600. This is a digital music player that can be connected to the phone. It pauses automatically when there are incoming calls.

Another feature of the Z600 that Sony Ericsson makes a big deal of is its games, which include the legendary V-Rally 2. More games are easily download-able. Java titles are supported, as well as games based on the Mophun engine. SE even offers a game pad controller accessory that fits over the back of the handset and looks like an old Nintendo pad. With Bluetooth, even multi-player games are an option. I'm not a gamer but I can imagine how people can quickly become one with this phone.



I'm easy to please and aside from the fact that it feels great to have such an attractive phone, I like the Clamshell design because I don't have to keep on locking my keypad. I also think the phone's external screen which shows information such as caller ID, time, network and battery status is a nice touch.

With 200 hours stand-by and six hours talk time, this will surely add to the never-ending dilemma of what phone to have. But don't take my word for it. Try it out.

At www.sonyericsson.com/Z600 you can virtually use the phone!

E-mail the author at cherishgh@yahoo.com

A Kingdom transformed

Barbie is Odette,

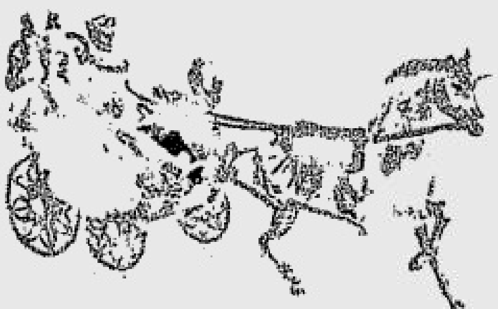
the beautiful enchanted princess of fabled Swan Lake

This October **Toy Kingdom** Megamall, Southmall, Bacoor, Fairview and Pampanga are transformed into fun-tasy lands of enchanted swans, fairies and unicorns amidst the backdrop of a castle by-the-lake.

This magical setting provides the centerpiece of the much-awaited launching of the **Barbie Swan Lake Collection** under the auspices of Toy Kingdom and Richwell Trading Corporation.

As Enchanting as ever

Barbie as Odette, Swan Lake's enchanted princess has never looked less like a water fowl. She is all girl-from her tiara-topped golden curls down to her pink ballet slippers. Barbie's pink and blue gown is adorned with feathery layers of glimmering fabric. But the real show-stopper is her glittering plastic wings that light up and flap when the two buttons on the doll's back are pressed.



As Dashing as ever

Ken as Prince Daniel regally outdoes himself as he wears a broad Tudor crown, a silver tunic and roomy trousers stuffed into high black boots. The Prince Daniel showcase comes with a miniature swan so girls can play out Barbie Doll's transformation in the classic story.

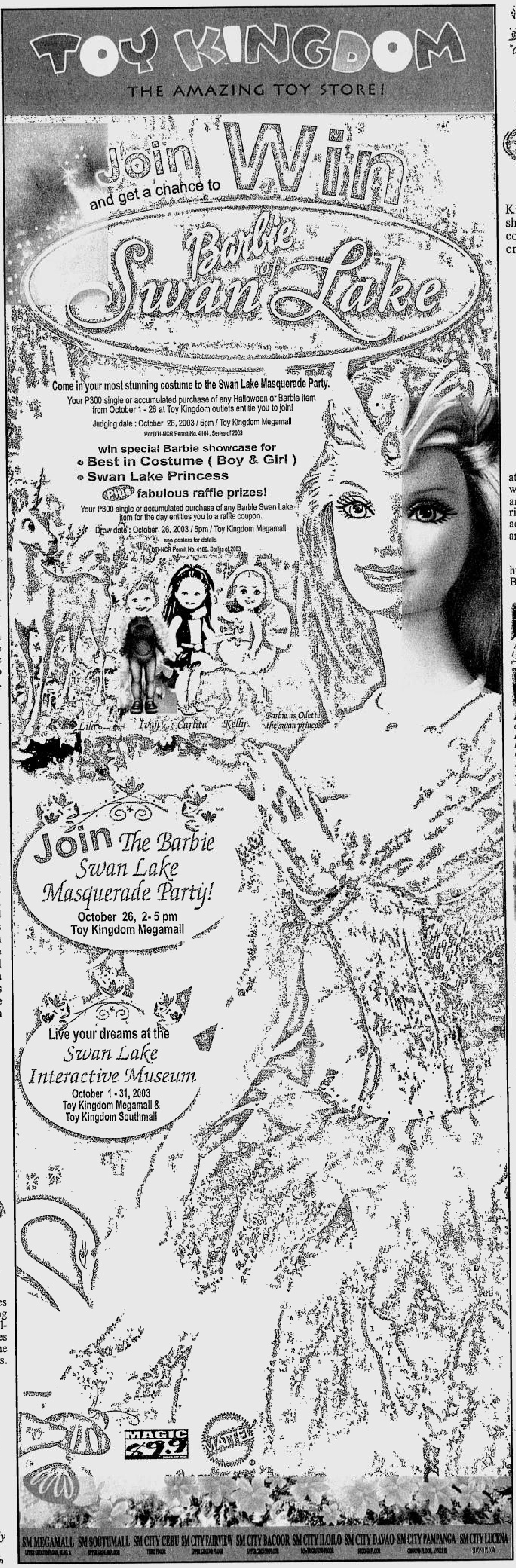
The Good Fairy

In "doll life" **Teresa** is Barbie's double-date buddy. In Swan Lake, she is the good fairy Queen who saves Odette (Barbie) from an evil and jealous wizard. Teresa carries a magic wand in the shape of a jewel-budded flower.

The supporting cast

Swan Lake's cast of magical creatures includes **Lila the Unicorn** whose shimmering hair tosses in the wind as she pulls the real-moving carriage of Barbie and Ken. Pixies **Ivan, Carlita and Kelly** add sparkle to the collection with their fabulous costumes.

Ivan, Carlita, Lila the Unicorn and Kelly



Come in your most stunning costume to the Swan Lake Masquerade Party.

Your P300 single or accumulated purchase of any Halloween or Barbie item from October 1 - 26 at Toy Kingdom outlets entitle you to join!

Judging date : October 26, 2003 / 5pm / Toy Kingdom Megamall

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4104, Series of 2003

win special Barbie showcase for

- **Best in Costume (Boy & Girl)**
- **Swan Lake Princess**

PLUS fabulous raffle prizes!

Your P300 single or accumulated purchase of any Barbie Swan Lake item for the day entitles you to a raffle coupon.

Draw date : October 26, 2003 / 5pm / Toy Kingdom Megamall

see posters for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4165, Series of 2003

Join *The Barbie Swan Lake Masquerade Party!*

October 26, 2- 5 pm
Toy Kingdom Megamall

Live your dreams at the *Swan Lake Interactive Museum*

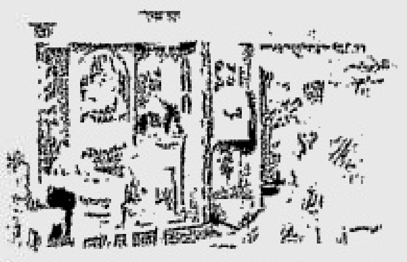
October 1 - 31, 2003
Toy Kingdom Megamall &
Toy Kingdom Southmall

SM MEGAMALL SM SOUTHMALL SM CITY CEBU SM CITY FAIRVIEW SM CITY BACOOR SM CITY ILOILO SM CITY DAVAO SM CITY PAMPANGA SM CITY LUCENA

A Magical Dream Comes True at Toy Kingdom

Barbie of Swan Lake

The Calendar of Events at Toy Kingdom Megamall and Southmall showcasing the Barbie of Swan Lake collection continues to draw a record crowd of young and old alike.



Once Upon a Castle. A treasure worthy of an honored place in any Barbie collection, Swan Lake Castle is the centerpiece of the new Barbie showcase on display at Toy Kingdom Megamall and Southmall. The exhibit ends October 31.

The Barbie event was formally launched at Toy Kingdom Megamall last October 5 with celebrity guests Lucy Torres-Gomez and Tweetie de Leon gracing the ribbon-cutting ceremonies. Both were accompanied by their daughters Julianna and Sabina respectively.

Soon after the ribbon-cutting, over a hundred little girls watched the premiere of Barbie Swan Lake movie.

Ribbon Cutting. Celebrity guests graced the formal opening of the Barbie Swan Lake Collection at Toy Kingdom Megamall last October 5. Shown at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies are from left: SM's Cecil Lu; Tweetie de Leon and daughter Sabina; Lucy Torres-Gomez and daughter Julianna; Richwell's CEO Myrna Yao; Toy Kingdom's Rose D. Lim; and Richwell's President Albert Yao.

Gifts for the Guests. Celebrity guests Lucy Torres-Gomez and daughter Julianna, and Tweetie de Leon and children hold their Barbie Swan Lake gifts as they pose with, from left: SM's Cecil Lu; Toy Kingdom's Rose D. Lim; Richwell's CEO Myrna Yao; real-life version of Barbie as Princess Odette; and Richwell's Maye Yao.

Prizes at Stake

MASQUERADE CONTEST

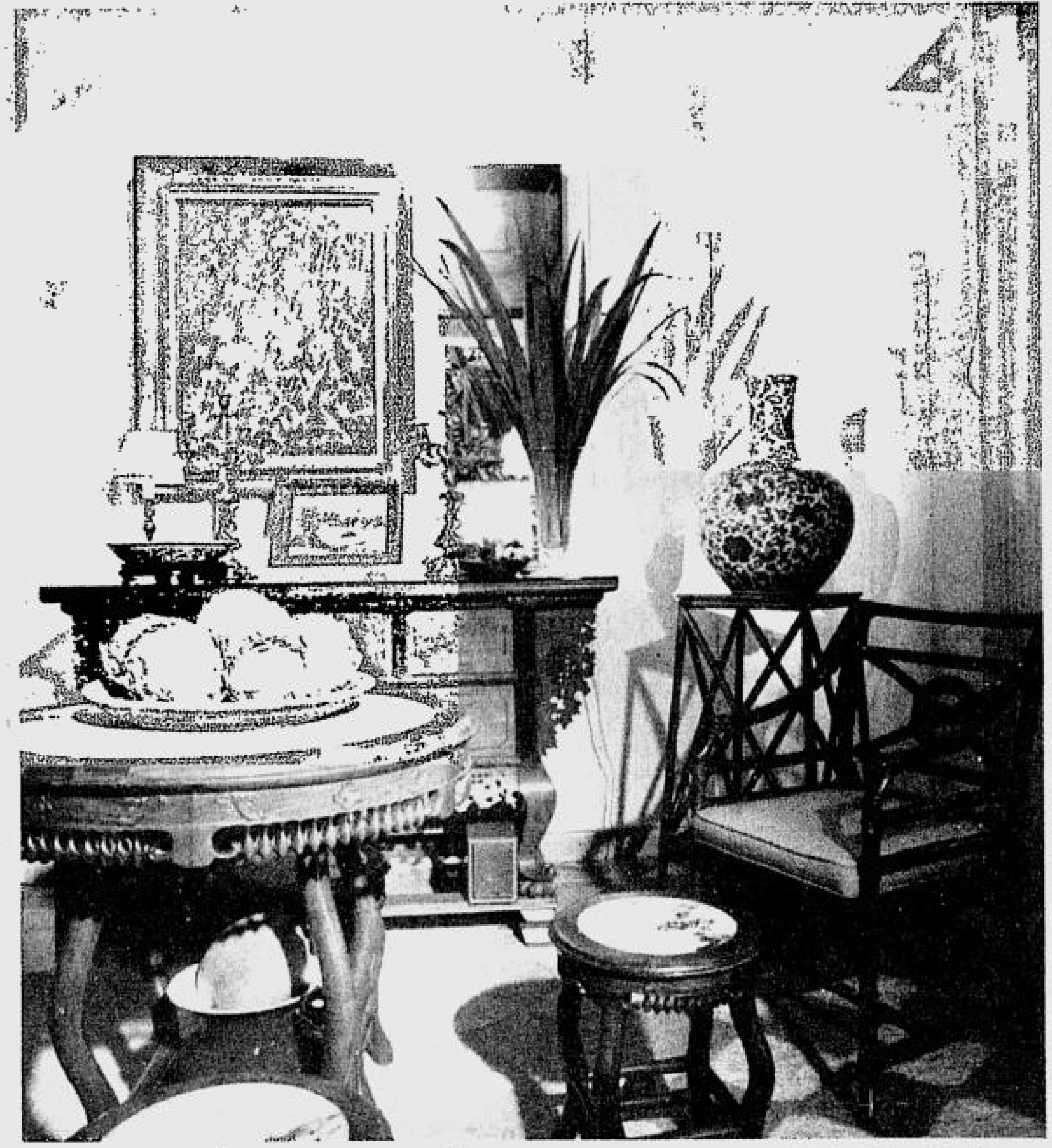
- **Best in Costume (Girl)**
  The girl wearing the best costume wins these prizes:
  - (1) Swan Lake Barbie
  - (2) Swan Lake Ken
  - (3) Swan Lake Rolling Art Desk
  - (4) Barbie Bright Laptop
  - (5) Barbie Shoulder Bag
- **Best in Costume (Boy)**
  The lucky winner wins these prizes:
  - (1) Swan Lake Ken
  - (2) T-Wreck City Play Set
  - (3) Rescue Net New RHP Truck
  - (4) HW Deluxe take along 100 Car Case
  - (5) 5 Packs Themed Gift Sets
  - (6) Emergency Play Set
- **Swan Lake Princess Special Award**
  Prizes are as follows:
  - (1) Barbie as Princess Odette
  - (2) Ken as Prince Daniel
  - (3) Stereo CD / AM / FM / Tape Recorder
  - (4) Boombox

RAFFLE

- **Lucky Contestant gets to win one 1 of 10 Swan Lake items:**
  - Swan Lake Horse and Carriage Set
  - Teresa, the Fairy Queen
  - Barbie Swan Lake Combo Stamper Set
  - Various Barbie and Kelly Wedding Sets

All Barbie and Ken fans are encouraged to join the Barbie Swan Lake fun and games at Toy Kingdom Megamall and Southmall.

AN EARLY Betsy Westendorp canvas hangs beside Wendy Weldon's iridescent oil composition. Below, her work is a vintage gilded mirror from Venice. On the altar table are a pair of baroque candelabras flanking another early work by the Filipino artist Ancheta. To the right, on a rattan stand, is a blue-and-white Ming jar. On the foreground is a Chinese marble-topped table with stools.

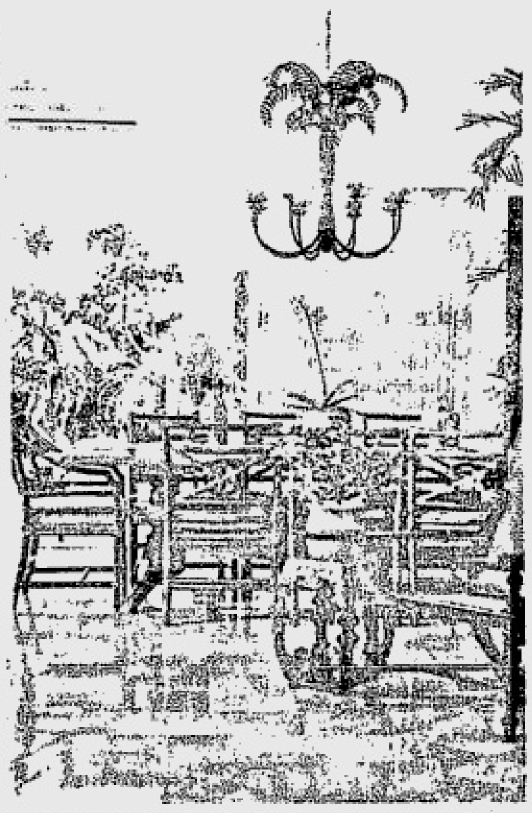


By Meluchi A. Rivera, *Contributor* • Photos by Patrick Uy • Pictorial direction by Albert Avellana

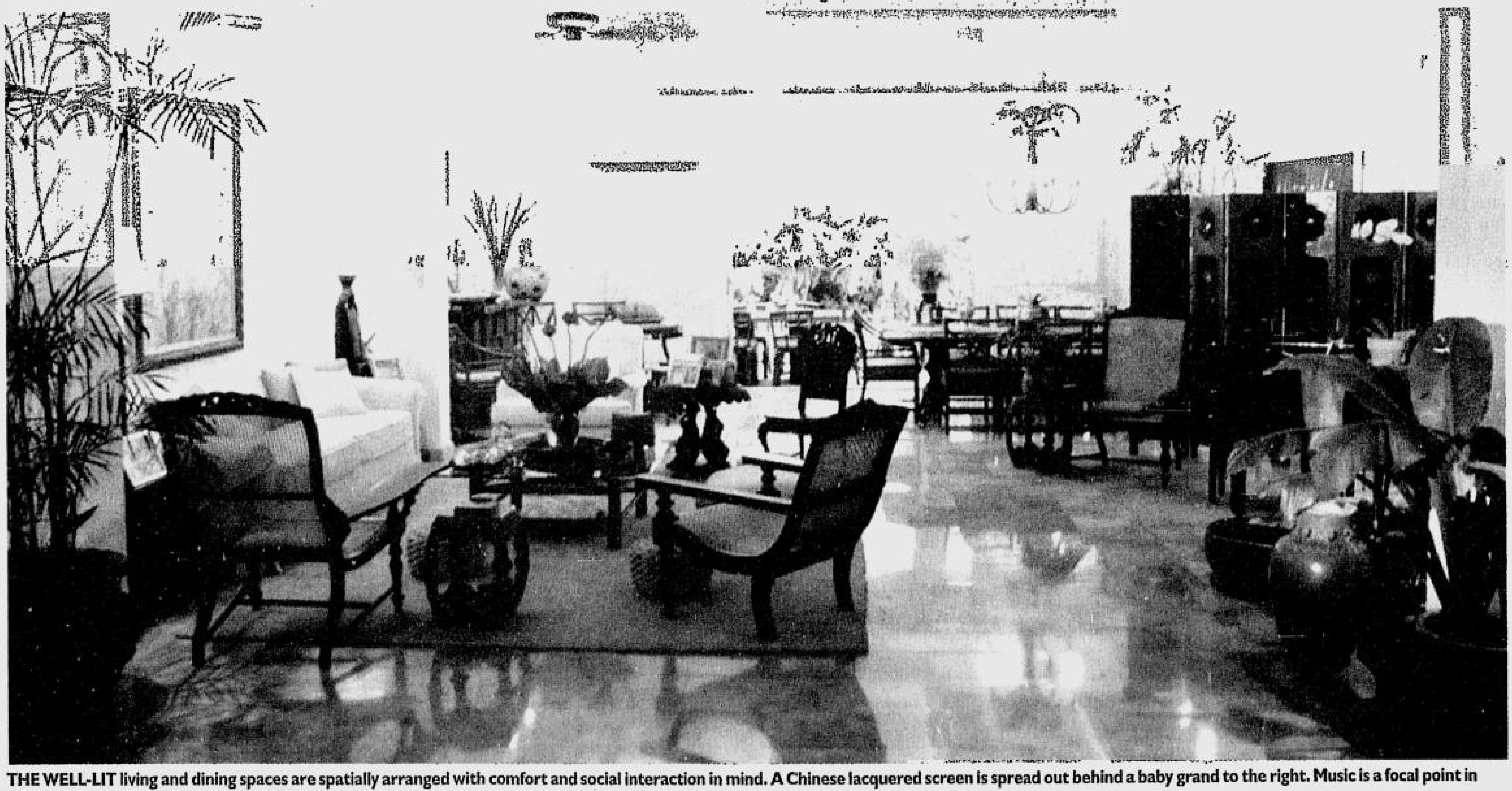
HOME AS HAVEN

Friends find this house so relaxing, that some visit just to meditate in the backyard

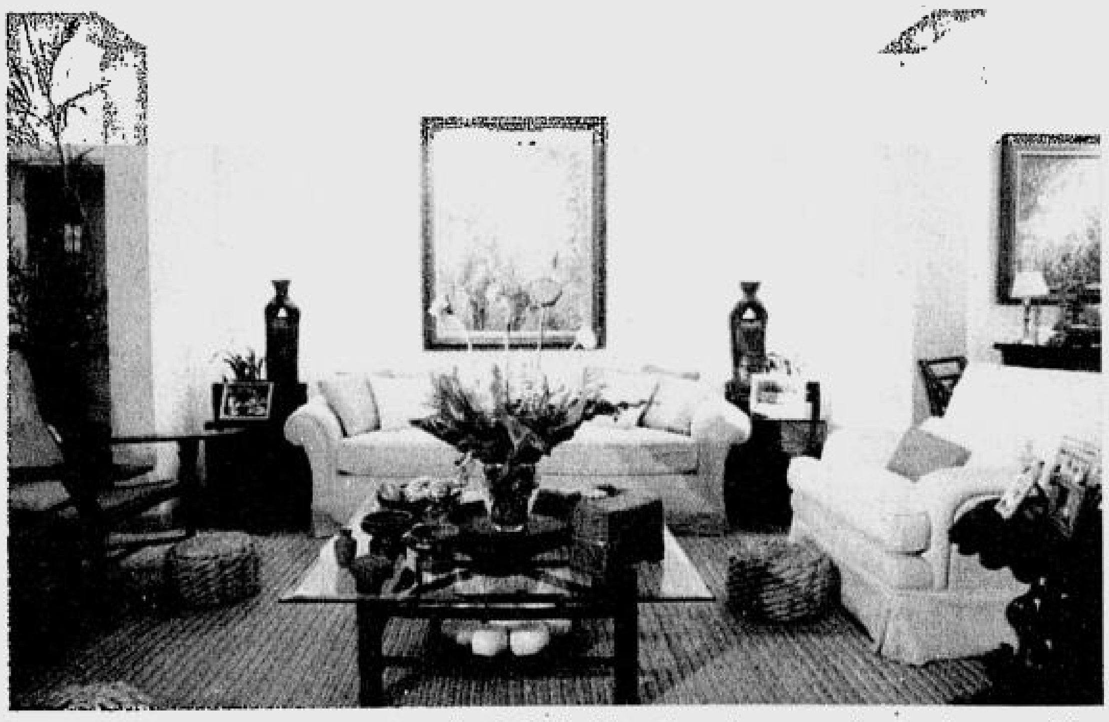
THE CHILDREN'S corner for arts and crafts features a table and seats in natural bamboo material. It also serves as a casual setting for impromtu snacks or card games.



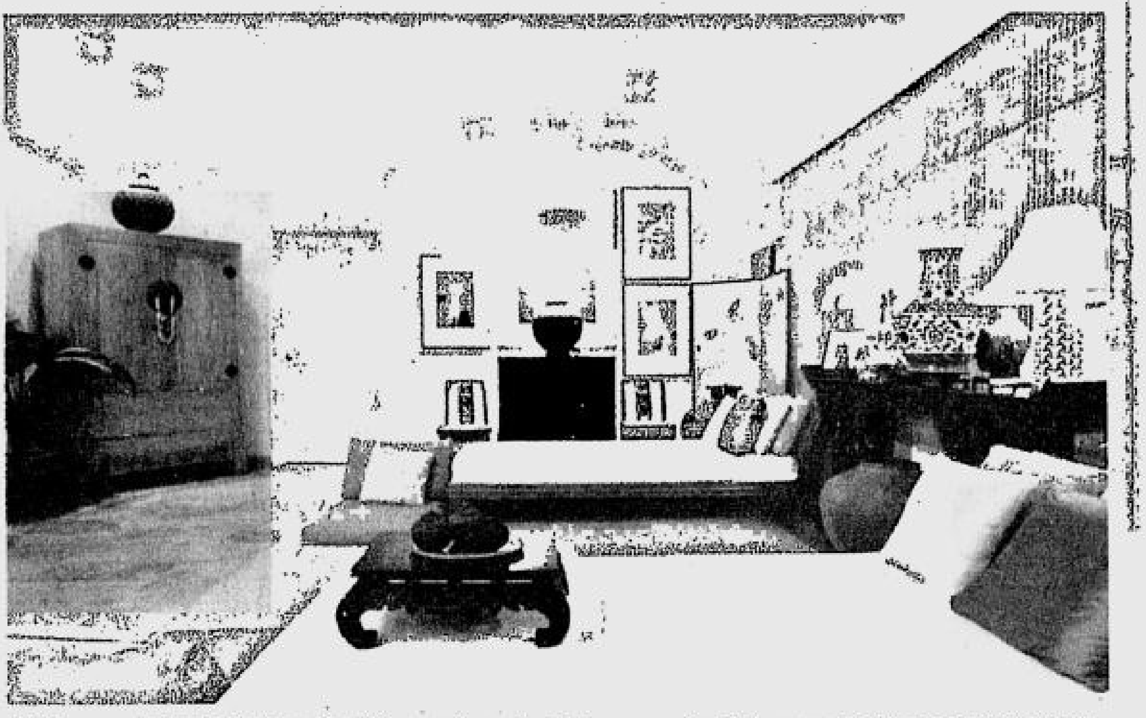
THE DINING ensemble in *narra* and *rattan*, under a wrought-iron chandelier with palm leaves design by Yola Johnson. The tropical motif and lush garden enhance the Chinese and Filipino classic furniture pieces.



THE WELL-LIT living and dining spaces are spatially arranged with comfort and social interaction in mind. A Chinese lacquered screen is spread out behind a baby grand to the right. Music is a focal point in this home. In the background is the lanai leading out to the greens of the garden.



BEHIND the sofa is a Betsy Westendorp oil painting in rich patinas of greens, yellows and oranges. The side tables are lacquered bridal chests with Ifugao *nito* water jugs for lampshade bases. Personal character is expressed through the items on the coffee table top: Cambodian and Vietnamese silver boxes of shell pieces, lacquer in-laid vases from Thailand and India, ostrich eggs handcarried from South Africa and a quirky floral centerpiece of lotus buds and palm leaves complete the ensemble.



TWO *narra* daybeds, designed by Miñana, where the kids romp and roll. Lacquered Chinese chairs flank an antique Chinese medicine cabinet. On the walls are Weldon's photographs from a previous exhibit. Also in this peaceful spatial composition: a Ming jar rules atop an Indonesian console; a screen painted by Italian artist Paola Dindo and an early 17th century Thai jar.

HOME is where family and work come together for this accomplished, visually-oriented couple, architect Emmanuel Miñana and his wife, photographer Denise Weldon.

The six-bedroom bungalow sits on a quiet street in Urdaneta Village. It was built in the 1960s on a scale that must have been considered modest at the time. The house has gracefully withstood fads and fashion, owing to its spare lines and airy tropical design.

Miñana considers this home a "serendipitous find." He recounts that three years ago, he and his wife were at a crossroads: they had spent years building their respective careers, and now it was time to build a family. They decided that the ideal home should have ample room for their son, and hopefully another child, to run around in, and for Weldon to set up shop.

"It came to a point when I prayed, 'God, I would like the house to be a bungalow. It should have the bedrooms on the right, and the work rooms should be on the left.'" Miñana motions around him: "We chanced upon this and I got goose bumps."

Indeed, the house is exactly as he had prayed for. From the unassuming front door, one enters a surprisingly expansive, sun-dappled main room. Off to the right is a hallway leading to four bedrooms; to the left are doors to the kitchen and two rooms that now serve as Weldon's offices.

Another sign that this was their intended haven: the couple needed no new furniture. Instead, they married her Chinese furniture collection with his Filipiniana pieces. They put their knowledge of space to good use and, as Weldon observes, "Everything seemed to find their place."

The main room's proportions cannot be considered grand, but it allows for several sitting areas, a spot for the baby grand piano, and a dining area. The lounge area near the entrance clears away to become Weldon's studio.

Save for an overstuffed sofa and armchair, nearly all pieces are made of wood or wicker. Miñana's deft arrangement keeps things interesting with a subtle play of color: a cinnabar divider and side tables play up the richly-carved ebony chair and the lacquered baby grand piano. Large paintings by Arturo Luz and Gus Albor, and groupings of smaller canvases provide splashes of color against pristine white walls.

As with any collection, closer inspection reveals carefully, perhaps even lovingly, chosen pieces. These include the side tables in the main sitting area, which are actually stacked antique Chinese wedding baskets used to hold a bride's dowry and carried like luggage on servants' shoulders.

Most items resonate with personal reminiscences. The ebony pieces from India were given by Denise's grand aunt. On the walls are hung paintings by family friend Betsy Westendorp and aunt Wendy Weldon, and of course, her own black-and-white photographs. The large narra day beds and dining table had been commissioned from Miñana's own designs.

Guests and occupants usually gravitate to the rear dining area, sun-lit because of the glass sliding doors, and beyond that, to the open lanai. Here, Miñana works, Weldon reads on the large opium bed, and their children do crafts on their very own bamboo furniture set.

Miñana says friends find the house so relaxing, that some visit just to meditate in the backyard. Several times, the place has been likened to a spa.

"From a feng shui perspective, it is almost perfect," Weldon notes. "At the time (it was built) there was little awareness of feng shui so it could have been totally intuitive. Amazing." Perhaps this is why the house constantly exudes a calm, positive energy.

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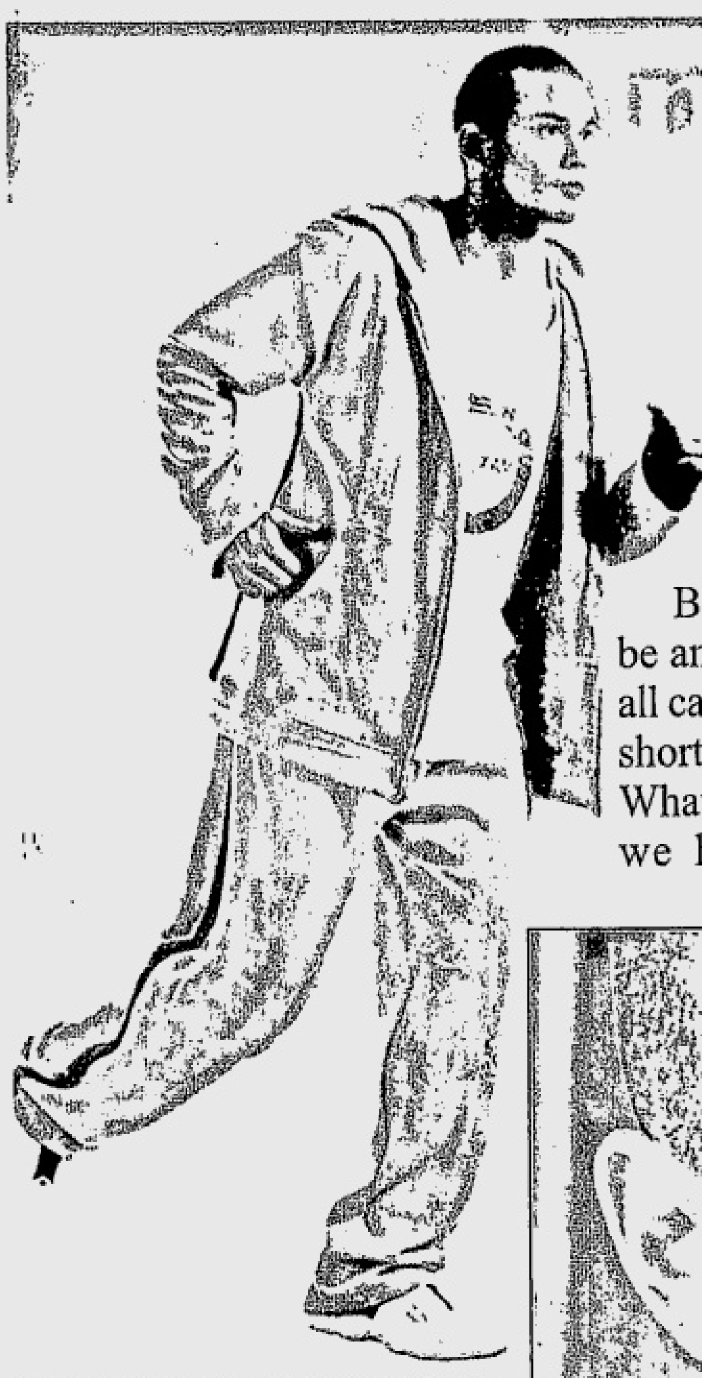
The Revital line is available at the Shiseido Beauty Institute, Level 2 Glorietta 4 and at the Shiseido Beauty Institute, Ground Floor Power Plant Mall.

maxwear active



Introducing
maxwear active
by SM Men's Wear Department

Building a big-size wardrobe could be an enormous challenge. After all, we all care about how we look whether we're short and chubby, or simply big and tall. Whatever our "bulk," that doesn't mean we have to stop looking our best!

SM Department Store's MaxWear Section makes shopping easy for big men. MaxWear offers hard to find sizes in a wide variety of basic relaxwear and activewear.

THE RIGHT STYLES

Big size styling is all about making your body look **"more vertical than horizontal."** Only at the MaxWear Section of SM Department Store can you shop for the styles and sizes you need to expand your wardrobe.

MaxWear Active line offer shoppers a choice of four fabrics, namely: (1) terry cloth (2) cotton knits (3) fleece (4) jersey

Muscle shirts are basic components of a cool, comfortable active wardrobe. This jersey shirt has a square bottom and full cut for easy movement.

THE RIGHT FIT

Below are some tips that will help you choose the clothes that fit better. So do keep them in mind when you visit SM's MaxWear Section.

- When shopping for tops choose those that fit your body, without being too tight or too loose. Lighter fabrics such as cotton or linen are ideal choices.
- Wear V-necks to draw attention away from the chin and neck. Crew necks, on the other hand, emphasize the thickness of the neck.
- Avoid letting your belly stick out over your pants; this lengthens your torso and shortens your legs, resulting in a very unattractive combination.
- In choosing slacks try not to wear tight or baggy pants. When buying pants, a good fit is essential. Also, try to avoid pants with pleats, as they'll make your pelvic area look bigger.
- Empty unnecessary items from your pockets; overstuffed pockets also call attention to your mid-section.

Stop worrying about your bulk. Be confident and start dressing smartly. SM's MaxWear Section has the styles for your active days.

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At the core of Essenses

More than an extension of Rustan's beauty counters, this specialty center has become known worldwide for its holistic approach to beauty

By Marge C. Enriquez

IT MAY be hard times for retail, but Rustan's beauty division is undaunted about going against the course.

Despite the unpredictable economic and political conditions, the country's premier luxury department store has stayed on track in its intent to post "strong double-digit growth" for 2003, says Rhoda Campos, Rustan's Commercial Center's associate director for marketing.

The encouraging statistics may be attributed to the retail formula of constantly providing novelty and innovations to the consumers. Rustan's Cosmetics and Toiletries Division offers over a hundred brands—and the number keeps growing—although the core of its business consists of 25 staples. Fragrances account for 50 percent of sales, since the Philippines is largely a fragrance market. In cosmetics, lipsticks are the top sellers, followed by foundations.

"There is a market that we haven't tapped yet," says Campos. The proof is positive response from consumers. Rustan's tack is not just to promote its products as essential elements to grooming, but also to underscore that these are prestige brands and serve to boost one's confidence and sense of wellbeing. The store has also kept profit margins just comfortable enough, the better for prices to stay consumer-friendly, especially for Filipinos. Admittedly, the duty-free stores provide stiff competition.

However, Rustan's provides a unique retail experience to lure customers to the store. A feather on Campos' cap is Essenses, which has put Rustan's on the world retail map. She has been invited to several international retail conferences to talk about its winning formula. More than an extension of the department store's multi-branded beauty counters brimming over with grooming and vanity accessories, it is known for its holistic approach to beauty. It has a baby care line, a nail bar, special aromatherapy products especially formulated for Rustan's by the local flower company Flourescence, and Dermalogica products. It also has a tea bar that offers spa cuisine, and such professional services as hot stone massage, and facials by Comfort Zone.

Campos has always been attracted to manufacturers that have the drive to innovate. And so Essenses has become a niche for independent brands. These goods are more than fair indication that there is no end in sight for either local or global economic expansion.

Nurturing mavericks

LEADERS, regardless of the kind of business, stand to be inspired by the insights of Estée Lauder Companies' CEO Leonard Lauder on nurturing maverick talents.

In Lauder's essay published in Women's Wear Daily Beauty Biz, he talks about the importance of nurturing independent producers that can inject freshness to the industry.

When the Estée Lauder Companies bought into such brands as Bobbi Brown, the CEO recounts, the firm maintained the "space" that the products needed to grow.

"We have the patience to nurture them. As with any parent, this patience often takes the form of resisting the urge to 'help' when our 'help' might suffocate," Lauder writes.

"Our industry's challenge is to always keep the door open to small companies with new ideas and high ambitions. They can be as important an incubator of new products as our own very sophisticated labs. They conquer consumer niches that mainstream companies may not be nimble enough to find, much less serve, on a timely basis. The independents are brimming with ideas."

Lauder believes in making exceptions of extraordinary ideas if they don't fit the marketing calendar or fiscal years projections.

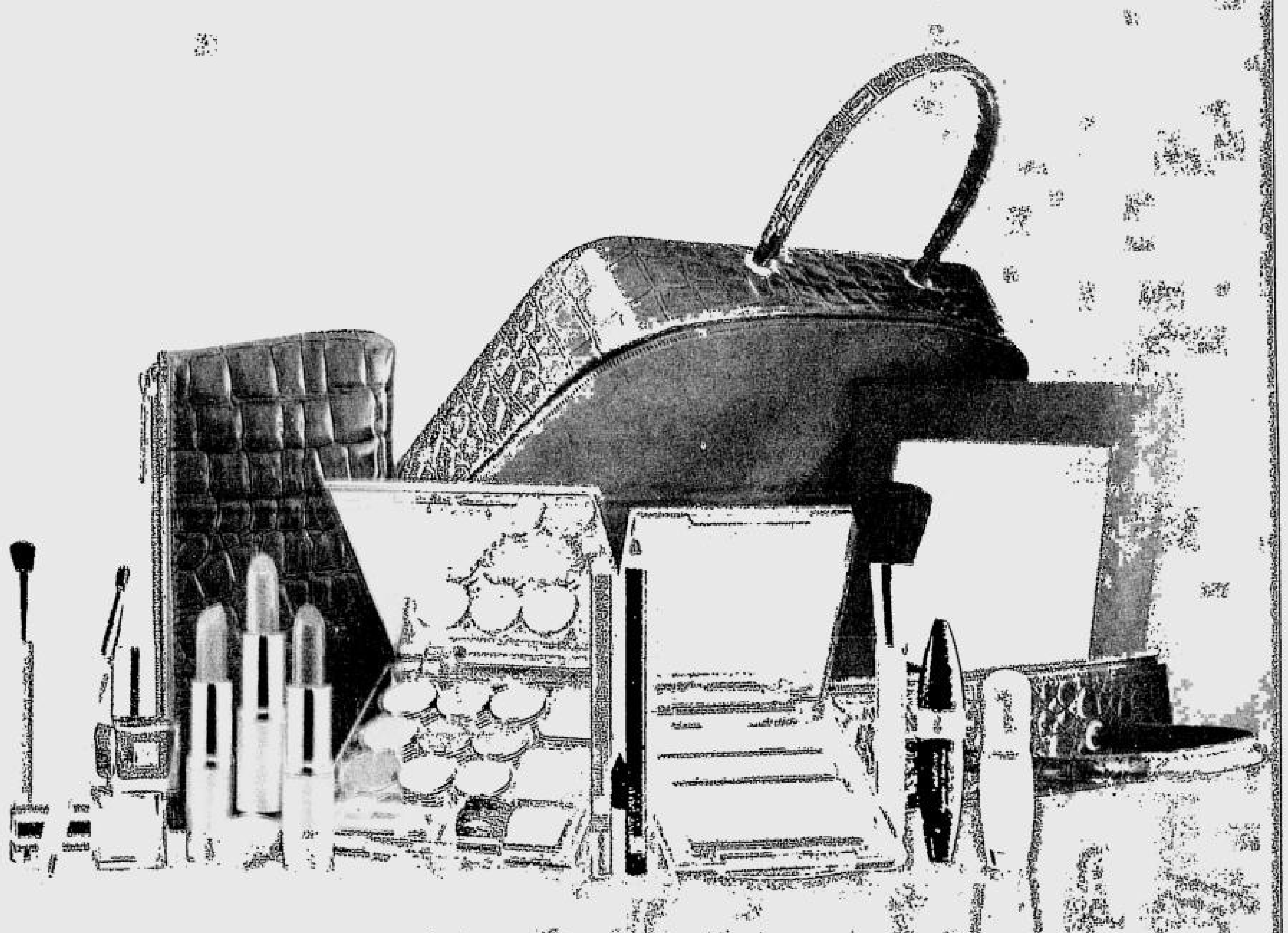
"Remove the naysayers," declares Lauder. "No one is going to offer his or her best thoughts if they think it will automatically be shot down as crazy."

Lauder cites the seven lines that kill motivation:

- We tried that already.
- It'll never sell.
- The stores won't like it.
- The cost of goods is too high.
- Go do what you're told.
- There's no room on the marketing calendar.
- We'll do it next fiscal year.

Although these may be corporate realities, Lauder maintains, great innovations have resulted from trying something a few times.

He concludes: "We can afford to experiment by finding an intimate corner to test new ideas. What goes on in these intimate corners can ... add just the touch of passion —and magic—it needs."



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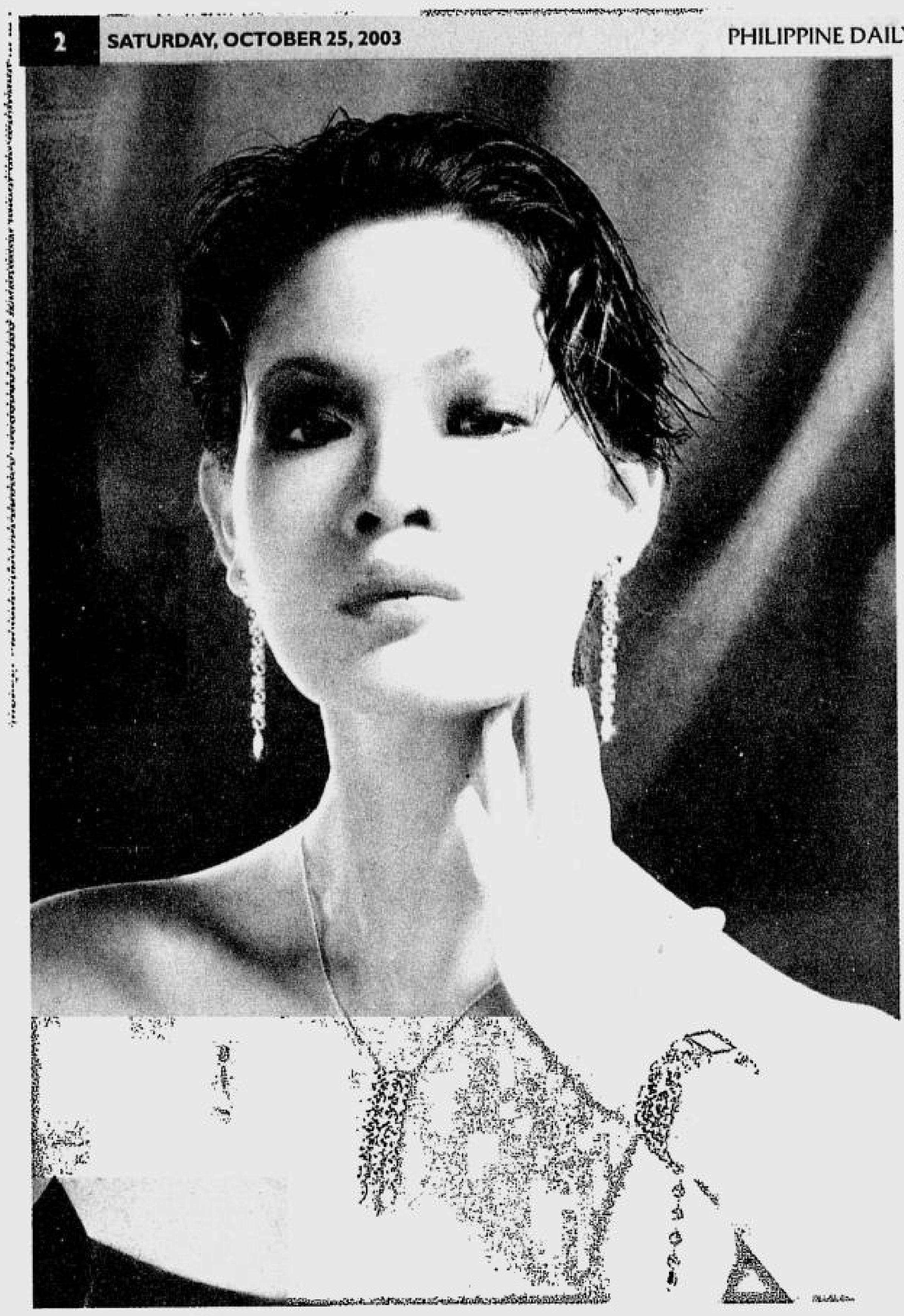
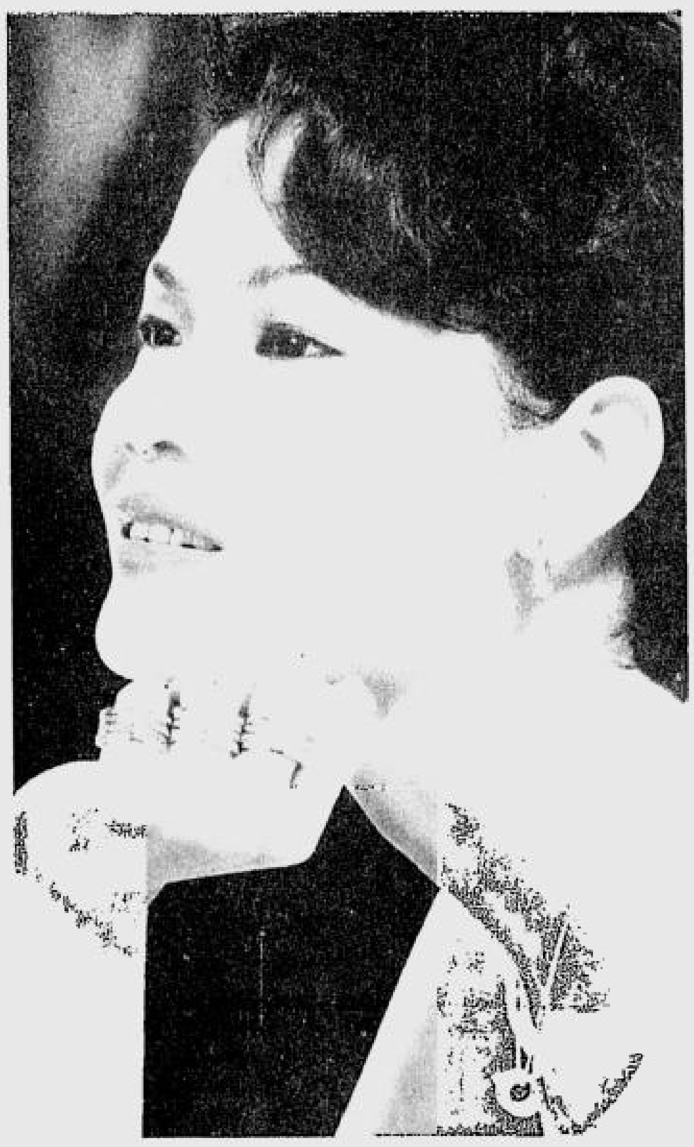
CITY SLICK

Urban glam redefined—from the subtle day glows to the dramatic shades aprés sundown



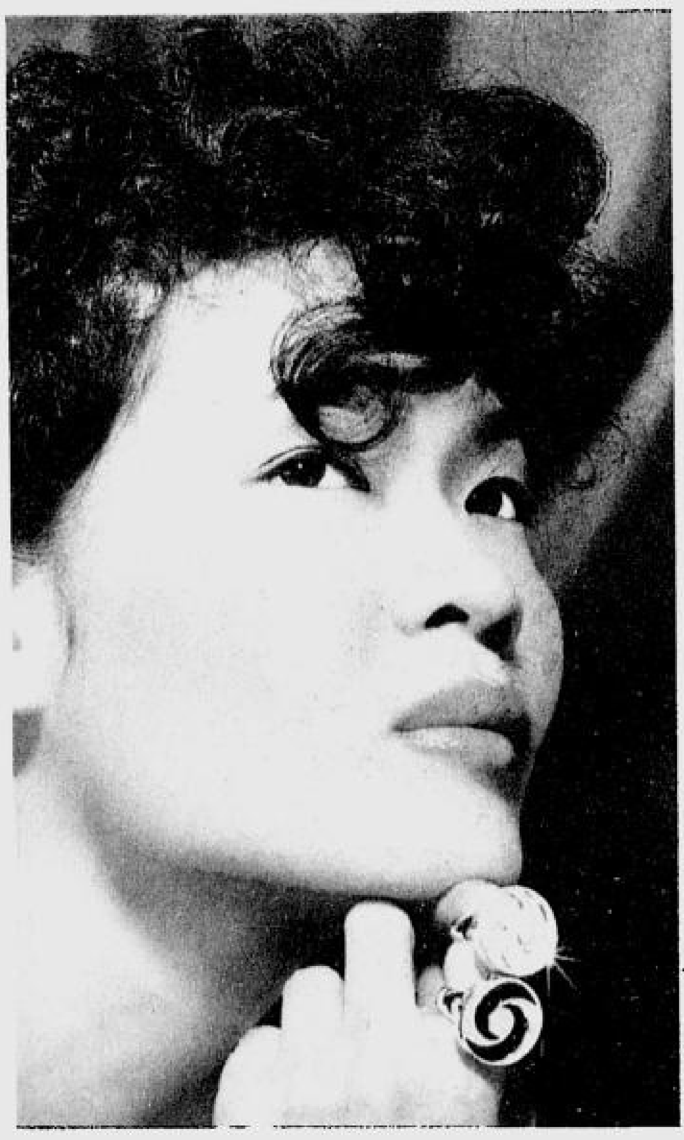
DIVA. Use your eyes to dramatize by using black flecked eye shadow and keeping the mouth quiet with pale lip color. Makeup: François Nars. On Jo Ann: Three-row pendant in white gold with blue topaz and dangling earrings in diamond pavé with blue topaz from Bvlgari.



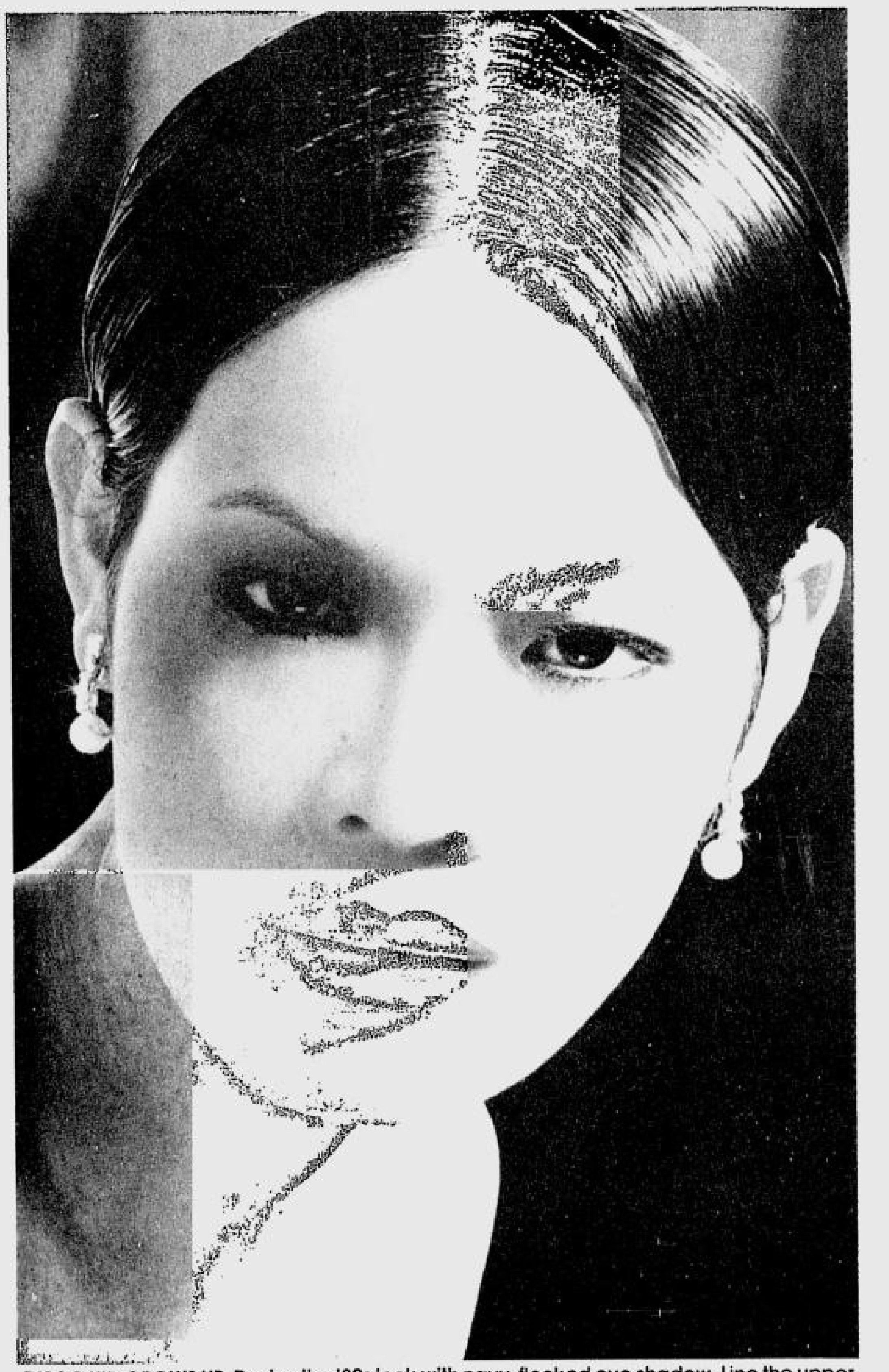
UPTOWN GIRL. Start with a dewy but oil-free foundation and color eye shadows in pastel shades such as Iris. Draw attention to the lips with a strong color like hydrangea. Makeup: Laura Mercier. On Jo Ann: BZero1 white gold pendant and banded rings with diamonds, pink rhodolite, blue topaz

Photos by Patrick Uy
Digital imaging by Meow Ferrer and Sandy Floria, I • KON Manila
Hair and makeup by Patrick Rosas, Chris

ADDT'L STYLING BY CHRISTIAN DAVID
MODEL: JO ANN BITAGCOLO, CAL CARRIE'S
JEWELRY: BVLGARI, 6750 AYALA



YOU GLOW, GIRL. For women who are makeup-shy, try bronzing gel and stardust powder. Bronzers are also recommended for subtle contouring. Keep the eyes subtle with mocha for lids and pale pink for highlights. Cap the look with plum lipstick. Makeup: Laura Mercier. On Jo Ann's fingers: Optical rings of yellow gold and mother of pearl and gold and onyx from Bvlgari.



DISCO KID GROWS UP. Revive the '80s look with navy-flecked eye shadow. Line the upper and lower lids with dark pencil and emphasize the cheeks with a deep pink blush. Finish with red lip gloss. Makeup: François Nars. On Jo Ann: Classica earrings with teardrop diamonds and pearls.

ÉLAN

Derma 911

By Ana A.S. Bitong, *Contributor*

It's so difficult to find time enough for a facial when every day is one big emergency. At last, here's a solution!

ESTĒE LA
Ideal Matte
Refinishing Make
Teint mousse fini
SPF 8

SOMEWHERE between building a career, getting married, having a baby, and struggling to prove I could have it all (I couldn't), I realized that I didn't have time for spas or long indulgences in the beauty parlor.

To this day, the only chance I get to be "pampered" is when I go to the doctor, and even then I have to be really sick. I am up early, asleep early ... thanks to my son. I say, if he can do it, why can't I? Yet somehow he doesn't suffer any of the after-effects, like blood-shot eyes and puffy dark circles around them, flaky rough skin, and incoherence. In short, metal and skin stress. Ah, if I could only bring back some life to my face... and some sanity to my life.

But how? It's so difficult to even make an appointment for a facial when every day is one big emergency—baby has a sudden cold, hubby suddenly wants to host dinner for 10 at home. (Of course he insists it's casual and I shouldn't have to work myself up. Duh? How to explain that food does not cook by itself?) Or the boss hands over a project just to make sure I realize I haven't really become a mother...

Where was I? Right. How to get a facial? Doesn't sound so hard, but it is! To think that it's when life gets really tough that one should look one's best. I can't explain this; it's a woman thing. It runs on the same logic behind four-inch heels that cause intense pain, varicose veins, feet deformity and scoliosis, yet I pay big bucks to wear them because if other women can do it, so can I!

But back to skin. What do I have to do to get a facial around here? Call the spa.

"What? Three hours for a facial—at the cost of my whole month's salary ++? And that's your only available slot?"

It's easy to think that's the end of the road. The good news is, it's not. Estée Lauder has come up with an answer: Idealist Micro-D Deep Thermal Refinisher. A breakthrough and gentle at-home alternative to micro-dermabrasion, this is how it works:

1) Thermal action opens and clears pores. It penetrates the skin deeply and helps dislodge the build up of sebum, dead skin cells and environmental debris. This is done with water-activated micronized calcium chloride encapsulated in a silica coating, which delivers a temporary heating sensation.

2) Intensive resurfacing action deeply, yet gently, polishes skin to restore its youthful look.

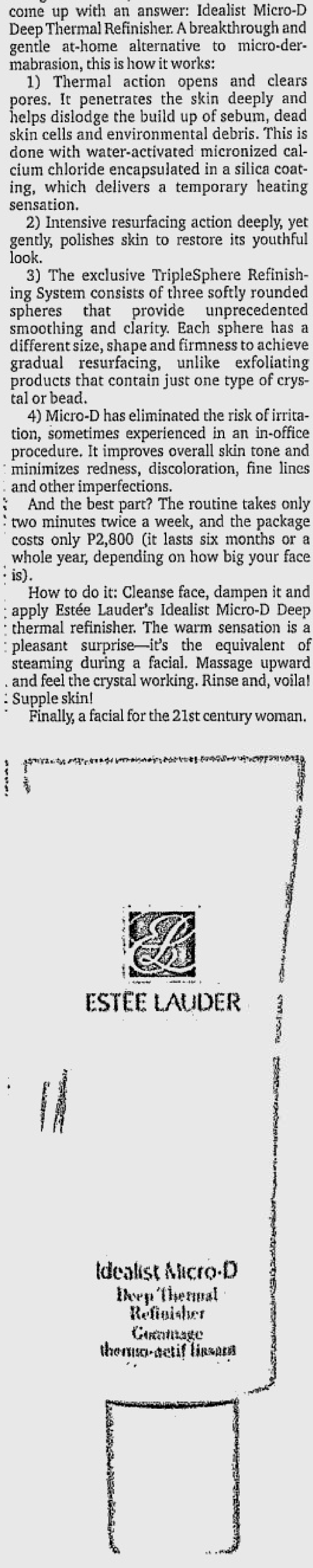
3) The exclusive TripleSphere Refinishing System consists of three softly rounded spheres that provide unprecedented smoothing and clarity. Each sphere has a different size, shape and firmness to achieve gradual resurfacing, unlike exfoliating products that contain just one type of crystal or bead.

4) Micro-D has eliminated the risk of irritation, sometimes experienced in an in-office procedure. It improves overall skin tone and minimizes redness, discoloration, fine lines and other imperfections.

And the best part? The routine takes only two minutes twice a week, and the package costs only P2,800 (it lasts six months or a whole year, depending on how big your face is).

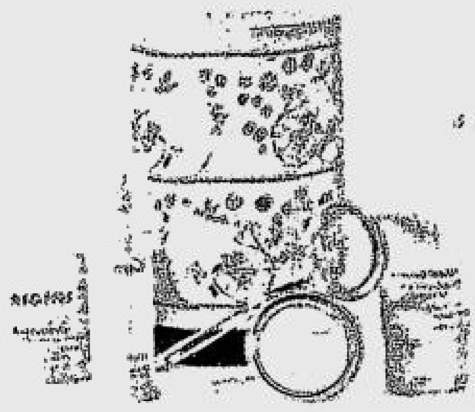
How to do it: Cleanse face, dampen it and apply Estée Lauder's Idealist Micro-D Deep thermal refinisher. The warm sensation is a pleasant surprise—it's the equivalent of steaming during a facial. Massage upward and feel the crystal working. Rinse and, voila! Supple skin!

Finally, a facial for the 21st century woman.

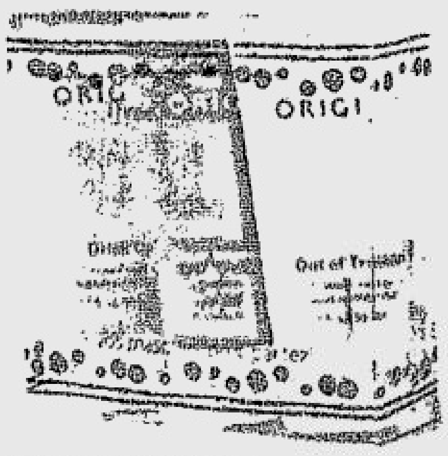


ORIGINS

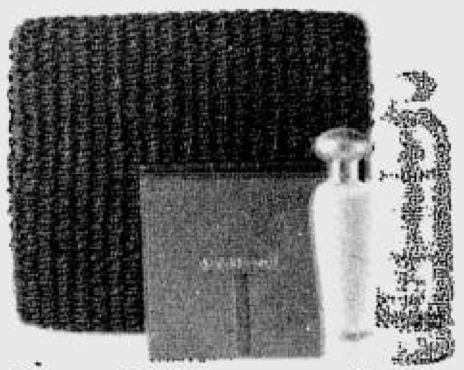
Somethings For Everyone



Absolutely Perfect
Give the gift of longer lasting youth, health and vitality - Origins Silver Tip White Tea. What could be more perfect!
Suggested retail price: ₱ 3,200



Three Masketeers
It's a three for all. These mask marvels make for an amazing at-home facial. The perfect pampering pick-me-up for the weary traveler or the harried holiday shopper.
Suggested retail price: ₱ 1,200

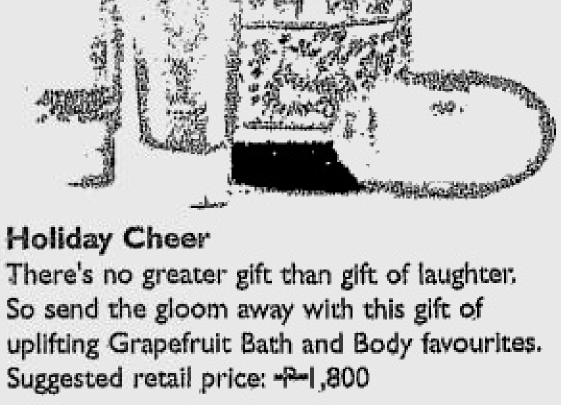


Ginger Gems
To look your best this season and shine like a star, try this gem of gifts.
Suggested retail price: ₱ 3,800

Let's Glow
Glow this holiday season and make sure your skin never has a dull moment!
Suggested retail price: ₱ 2,300

Rest Wishes
Losing sleep over the hectic holiday season? Busy travelling? Too many parties? Recoup after the busy season with the gift of a good night's sleep.
Suggested retail price: ₱1,200

Warm Wishes
Give your favourite Ginger lover something to snuggle up with this season. This scent-sational gift is filled with the finest savory ginger treats!
Suggested retail price: ₱ 2,300



Holiday Cheer
There's no greater gift than gift of laughter. So send the gloom away with this gift of uplifting Grapefruit Bath and Body favourites.
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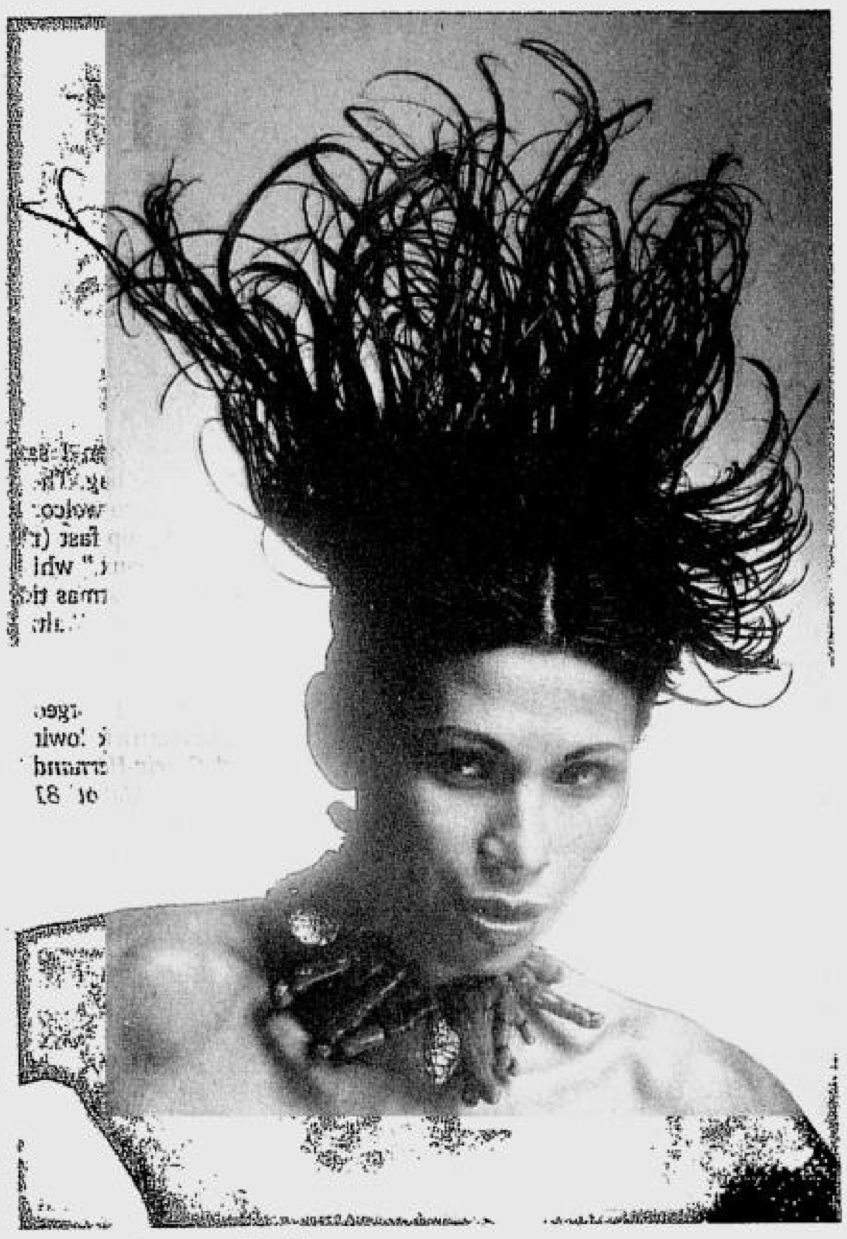


All a-flame!

'I'm not interested in fashion. I don't go for what's in, what's trendy, or what the latest is... I refuse to be dictated upon by other people's whims!'

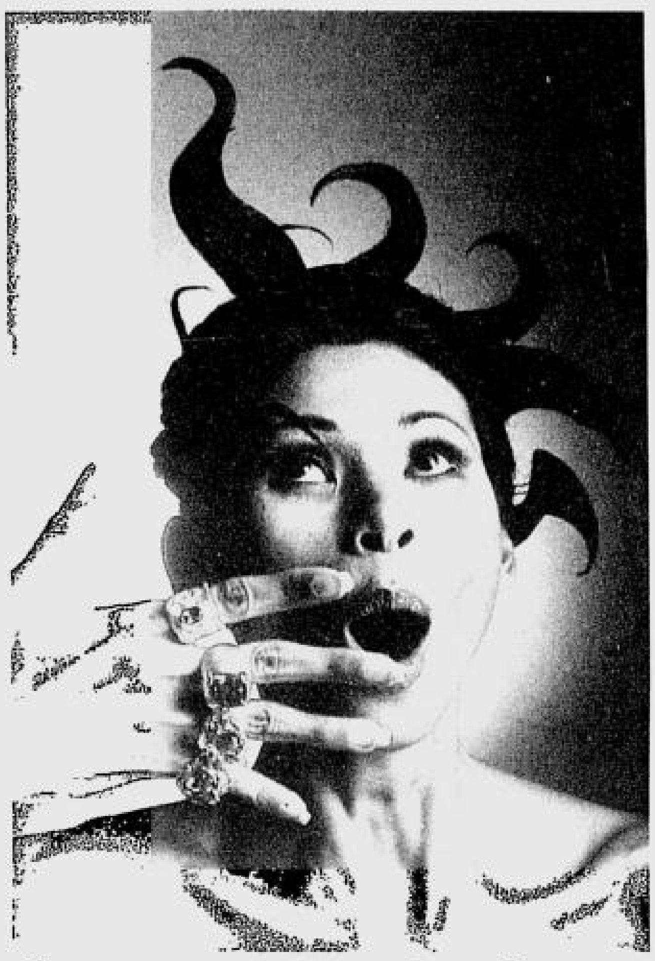
HAIR SCULPTURES BY GEOFF SIMPSON OF PRIVÉ SALON
MAKEUP BY KERWYN CUEVAS
COSMETICS PAULA DORF OF RUSTAN'S ESSENCES
MODEL: LYN ROXAS
JEWELRY BY WYNN WYNN ONG FOR FIRMA GREENBELT 3

Photos by Raymund Lauchengco
Pictorial direction by Antonio Salac Santos

'I'm not into labels. I can't go about pleasing just about everybody!

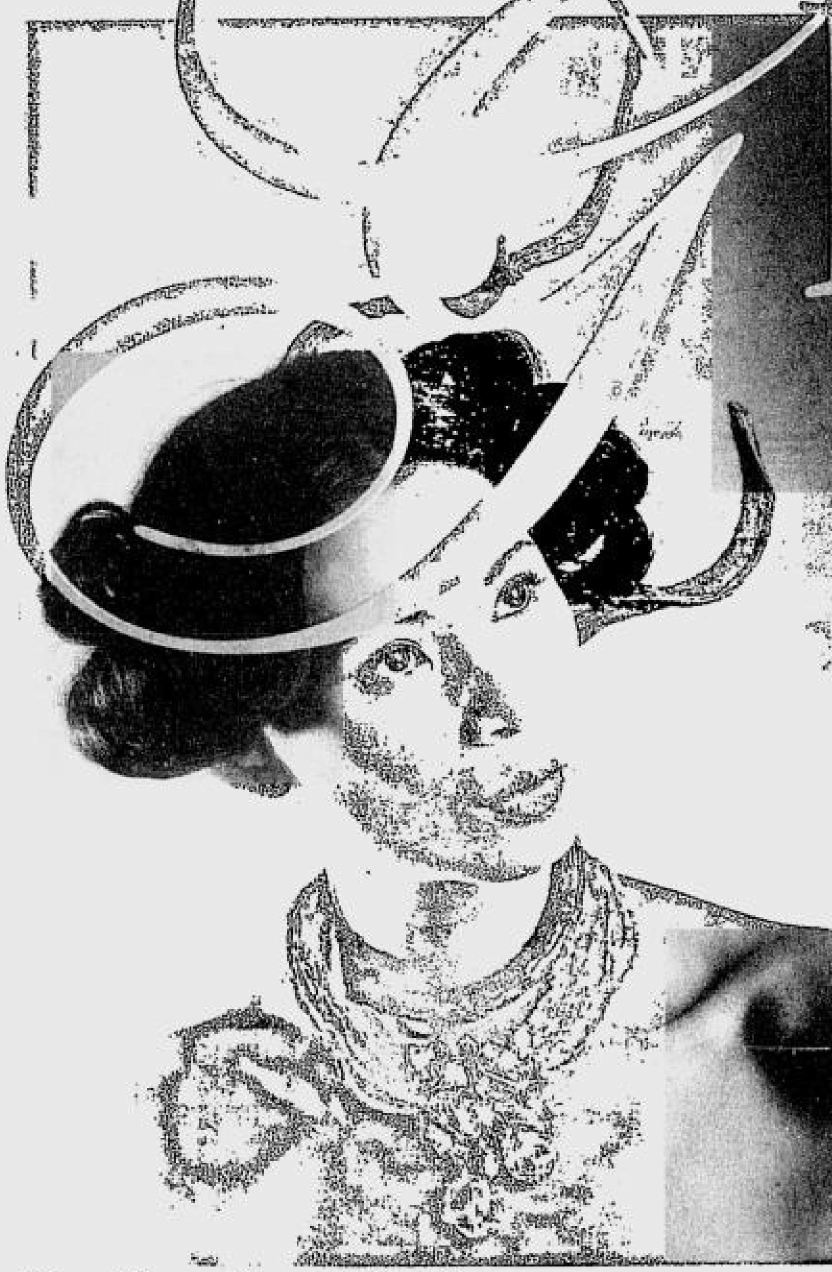
Would anyone walk into Glorietta wearing leaves in her hair, or made up like this? Ha-ha-ha! This is a fun shoot! It's meant to show this side of Geoff Simpson that my clients, or friends, or the public, don't usually see... or know about!'

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GEOFF



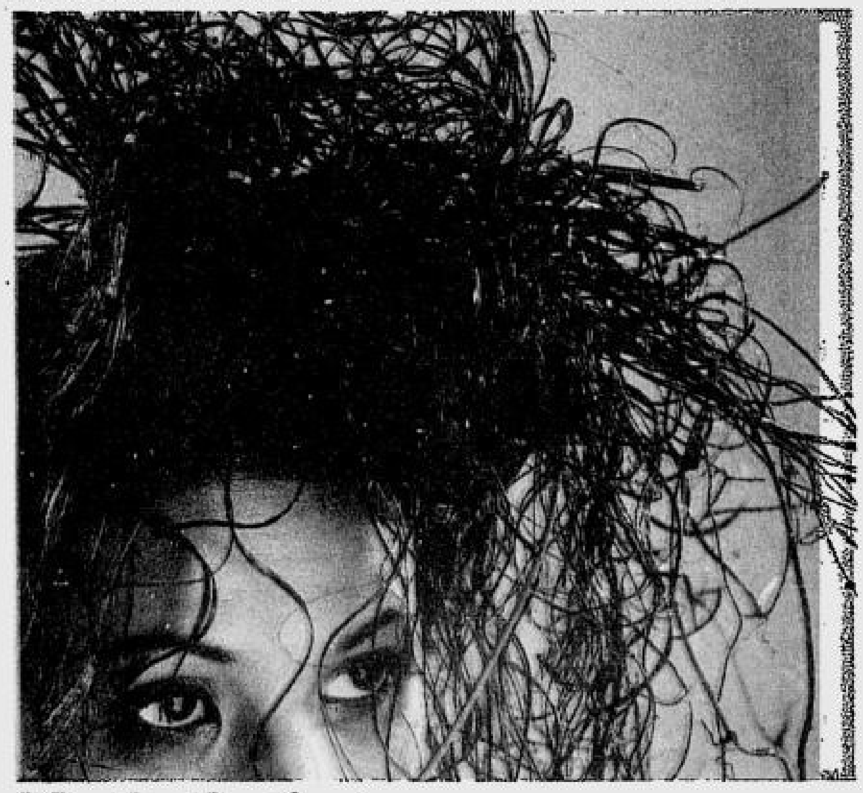
Spontaneous combustion

'That's what design, generally, is. The creative process is a collaboration of several minds and hearts. A great part of it is left unplanned though. Too much thinking spoils the magic of the moment.'



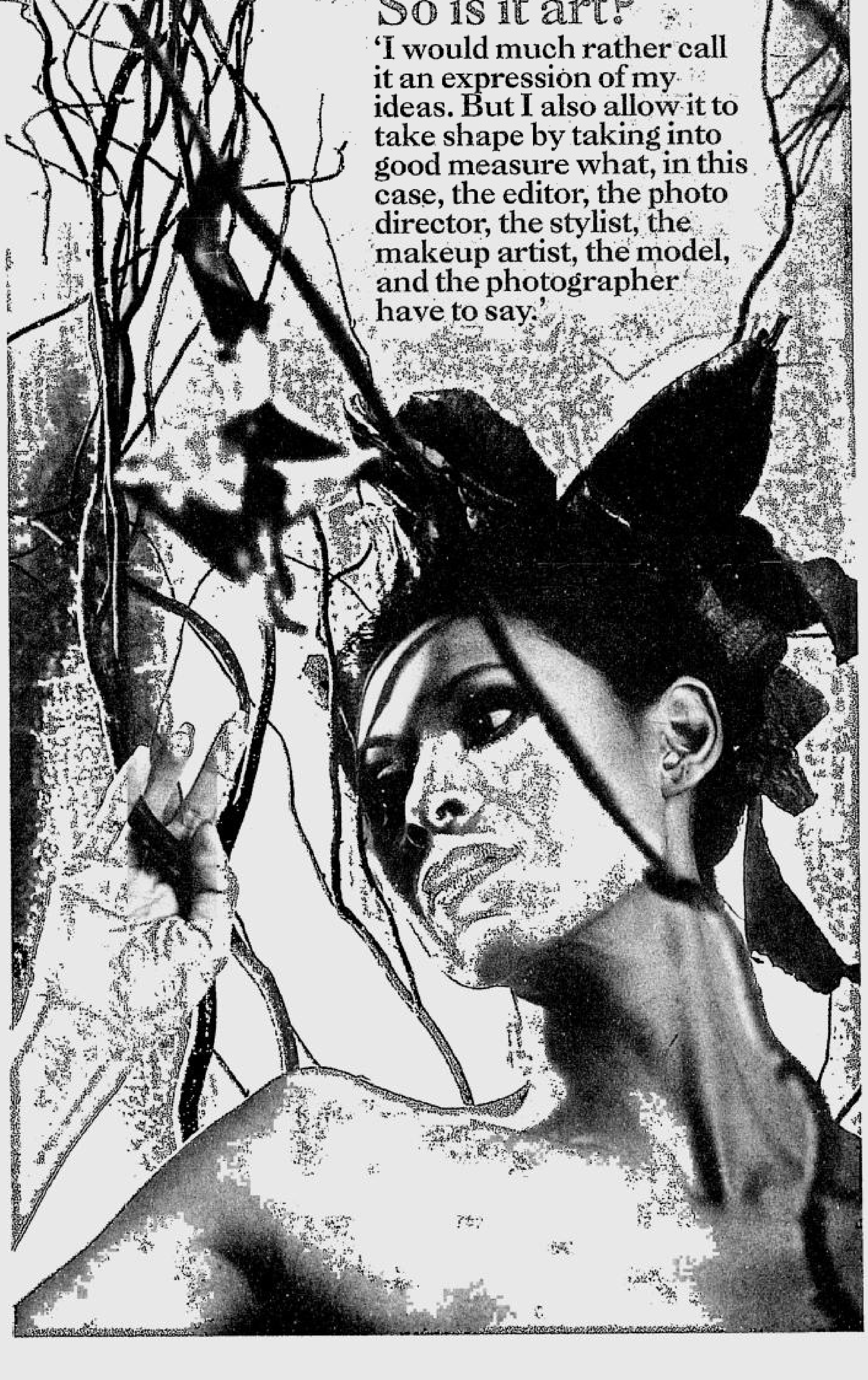
Bonfire of vanities?

"Let's just say my job is not about feeding vanities. I cannot give you what you do not have, in the first place... Like everyone else, I allow my self, at times, to be 'inspired' by another person's work... let's say, a black and white photo by Herb Ritts, or something like that."



Nesting instincts

"I work more to moving clients closer to their own comfort zones. That is, looking into their lifestyles, how they go about their business on a normal day. Then I make sure that their hair wouldn't add any more to their number of concerns. I feel good when they feel good."



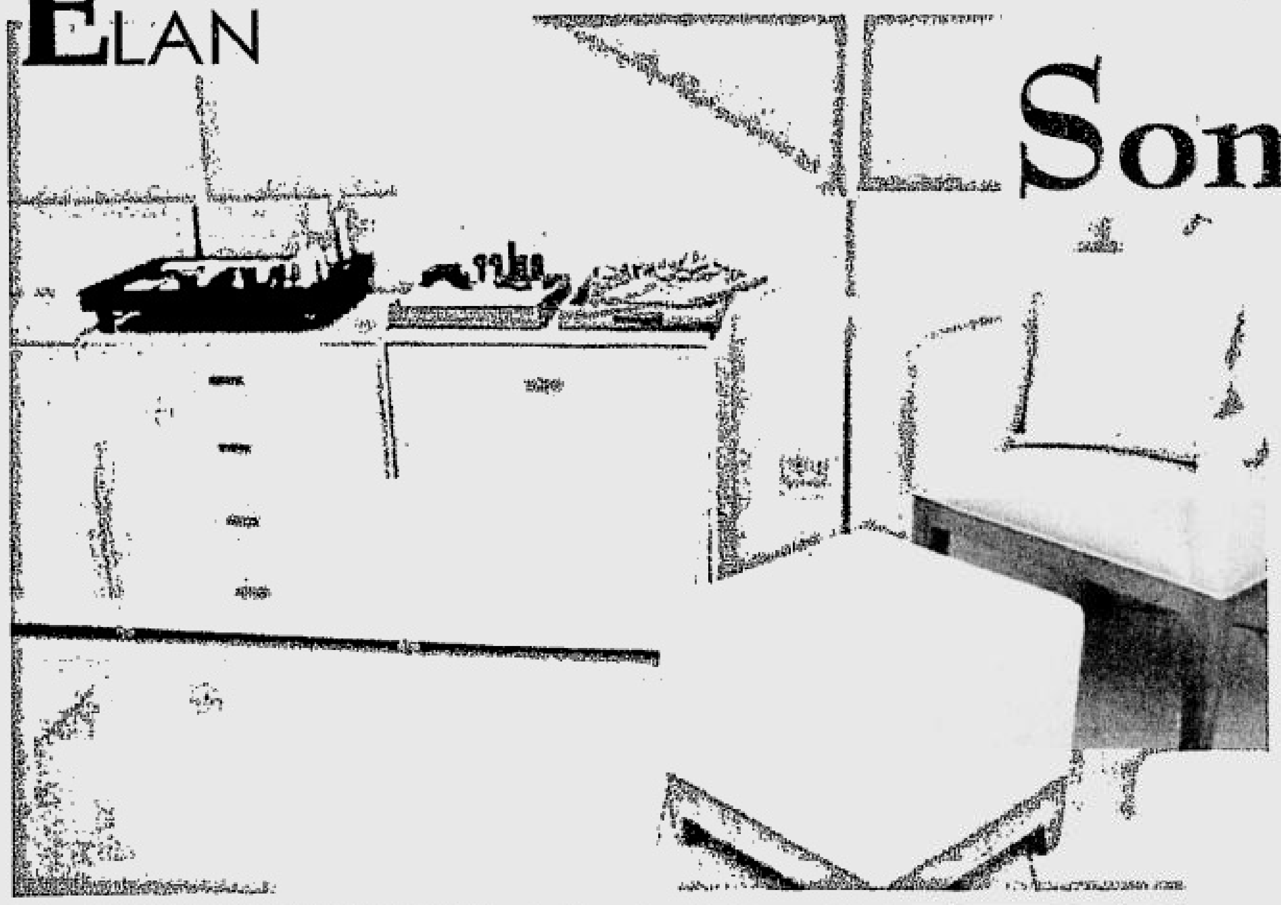
So is it art?

'I would much rather call it an expression of my ideas. But I also allow it to take shape by taking into good measure what, in this case, the editor, the photo director, the stylist, the makeup artist, the model, and the photographer have to say.'

ÉLAN

Something about pretty nails

Essie, the super polish is due soon in Manila



THEY SAY the true measure of good grooming is in the hands and feet. I must concur there is something to be said about clean fingernails. And in a country like ours where open-toed sandals are worn all-year round, it is plain rude to expose unkempt feet. This may be the reason that hand and foot spas have cropped up all over the metropolis. But with our fast-paced lifestyle, it is almost impossible to set aside even just an hour or two every week to go to the parlor and have our nails done.

Always quick on the latest trends, Rustan's Essenses opened the Nail Bar early this month. Just like other luxury stores around the world—for instance, Bergdorf Goodman in New York, which has expanded its beauty department to offer facials, manicures and the like—Rustan's has realized the need to adapt to the needs of modern consumers.

Indulgence

The Nail Bar caters to women on the run who want to indulge themselves while shopping. And because we sometimes need quick fixes to mend a chipped nail, or a quick change of polish, the Nail Bar offers these services as well.

On a busy Friday after lunch, I sampled some of these services. Amid the bustle of pre-Christmas shopping I plopped down on a comfortable chair, put my feet up and prepared to be pampered. It wasn't long before everything around me became a blur as two very skilled nail technicians worked on my hands and feet. I was offered a luxurious foot scrub but pending commitments had me settling for a regular manicure and pedicure. They expertly cleaned and massaged my extremities with none of that overzealousness that usually ends in pain.

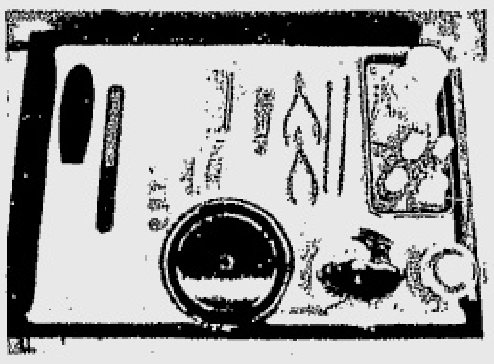
I couldn't help but think of those days when the "home-service" manicurists used merthiolate. Well, this was definitely not one of those treatments. The Nail Bar offers the highest quality of service that ends with a wide choice of premium and regular nail polishes. Oooh, they even have formaldehyde-free Clinique! But I settled on a lovely iridescent Chanel that sparkled when hit by light. With choices like these, I thought, I could come here every week! I was told that Essie nail polishes would soon join the impressive array.

Waltzing

In a chapter from the book "The Devil Wears Prada," one of the girls from the fictitious "Elias-Clark" gushed as she showed protagonist Andrea her nails: "Waltz over Ballet Slippers!" Any beauty fanatic knows that "Waltz" and "Ballet Slippers" are nail polish colors from the cult status-brand Essie.

Established in 1981, Essie Cosmetics was started by Essie Weingarten with just 12 shades and three nail treatments which she herself sold to salons in New York City, door-to-door. Because of outstanding durability and the superior color selection, the brand quickly caught on with professional nail technicians. Inevitably, celebrities and beauty editors became huge fans. Today, its trademark square bottle is a staple in top spas and salons all over the world.

I started reading about Essie nail polish in the magazines. I was always drawn to light shades, and every time I saw this perfect pink, the caption would invariably read, "Essie Ballet Slippers". By the time it became a top pick in Allure's annual "Best of Beauty" issue, I was obsessed. On a trip to the United States, I thought I could find it in any department store. Apparently not! Essie is sold exclusively in salons or through mail. I eventually got hold of their contact number and got myself "Ballet Slippers," "Fed-Up" (a less opaque pink), and "Scarlett O'Hara" (a bright red that doesn't look tacky).



Every time I bring a bottle of Essie to the parlor, someone asks where I got it. Nail technicians always admire the unique colors, plush and elegant. They don't have the watery look of ordinary nail polish ... and they last forever! Naturally I have been pining for other shades since I have been rotating my three colors to death.

When I found out that Rustan's was bringing Essie in this November, I was ecstatic. Essie Weingarten is expected to launch the line in person. When Rustan's Jenny Teves sent me additional information for my story, I literally squealed with delight when I saw three bottles of nail polish in the bag. There was "Ballet Slippers," which was so welcome because my bottle was finishing up fast (my mom shares it with me), "Bordeaux," which was a deeper sort of red (my Christmas tips and toes are taken care of!), and "Waltz," which is another variation of pink and one of the best sellers as well.

With such whimsical names and gorgeous shades, it's no wonder Essie has such a following.

Cherish Garcia-Hernandez

Nail Bar at Essenses, Rustan's Makati 813-3739 loc 205, or 819-1610.

excuse us for name-dropping, but they're here. exclusively.

NARS

laura mercier

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alchemy

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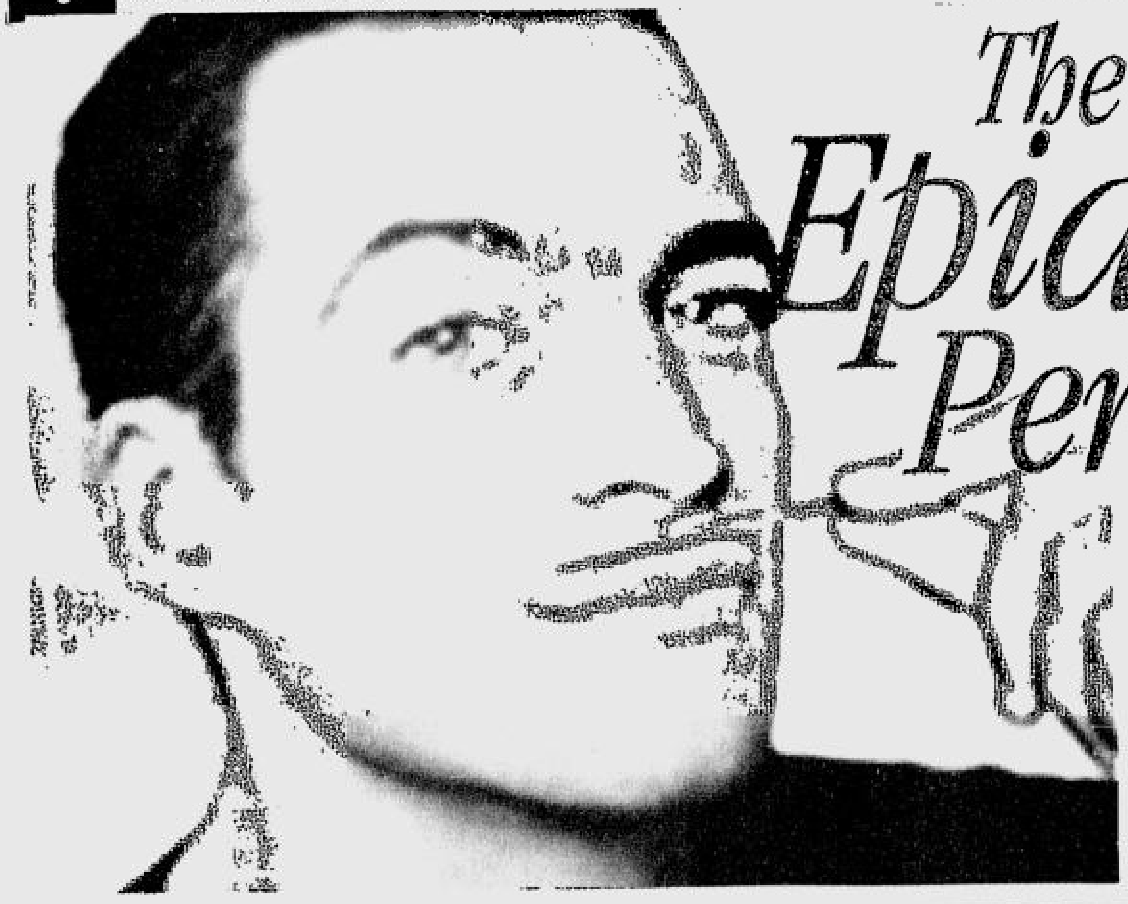

The EpiderMale Persuasion

Oscar Wilde famously said that a man's face was an autobiography, while a woman's face was a work of fiction

By Martin Valdes
Contributor

IT IS not known if William Shakespeare suffered from acne. Neither is there documentation on whether or not the prophet Mohammed had irregular facial pigmentation due to excessive solar exposure. An even more obscure mystery that no one really cares to investigate is Julius Caesar's choice of pre-shave lather. The chorus of human male achievement blares with invention and brilliance, shrilly annotating recorded history with daring exploits, conquests and phallic landmarks. But when it comes to skincare, men have been conspicuously silent.

Perhaps it is because of the roles that the human species has assigned to the sexes. Man has always been warrior, hunter, and provider. His earliest responsibilities included tracking wooly mammotlis on a harsh winter's day, repelling Mongol hordes from his farmlands, and making sure his lineage continued through rampant fornication. These myriad tasks mostly required muscular strength and high tolerance for pain. The aesthetic aspect, while a charitable bonus, was never a requisite for the successful male. Even choosing a wife had little to do with being handsome—it all came down to possessions, social ranks and survival skills. Alexander of Macedonia is labeled "The Great" because he soaked half the world in blood, not because he exfoliated twice a month.

But many modern men apparently do. Skincare has long been one of the most lucrative industries in the world, with millions of dollars being spent on research and development every year, and billions more being earned by pharmaceutical companies that produce and distribute the products. The catch has always been that it is an industry hugely biased in favor of the female consumer —simply because only women used to buy all these creams, and soaps, and lavender-scented whatnots. Oscar Wilde famously said that a man's face was an autobiography, while a woman's face was a work of fiction. This pretty much sums up the misconception that skincare should be exclusive to women.

Forgiveness

But the times, they are a'changing, as Bob Dylan noted. Modern science has proven that skincare is not a luxury, but a necessity. Another fallacy is that taking good care of one's skin costs a lot of money and requires professional treatments and expensive concoctions. Actually, it begins with common sense and a healthy lifestyle. Excessive substance abuse, lack of sleep, dehydration, and unbalanced diets, all adversely affect the body's organs—people tend to forget that the epidermis is an organ, the largest and most visible one at that. While money is necessary to purchase the best services for skin treatment rehabilitation, basic measures taken on a regular basis cost next to nothing. Drinking enough water, protection from too much sun, eating healthy foods—although these sound like rote commandments lifted from every self-help digest out there—are the first steps to preserving one's skin.

As for skincare being something only women indulge in? Modern man has come to realize that there is absolutely nothing wrong with looking as good as he possibly can. In fact, he now acknowledges the aesthetic as an advantage that men can also avail of. Business favors clean-cut, healthy looking faces to endorse products and services. Society approves of well-dressed, good-smelling males. Finally, the ritual of bonking a chosen female over the head with a wooden club has lost its romantic appeal. Sexual equality demands that women be free to select their spouse. High on the list of attributes, my fellow men, is healthy skin.

What a boy wants

I recently visited Rustan's to investigate the status of the skincare industry vis a vis the growing male market. While it still focused on women, the store's beauty department now offers the skin-conscious man an impressive variety of products and services. There is a veritable armada of lotions, sprays, creams, ointments, soaps, and mois-

THE EPIDERMALE/ 7

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essences

The EpriderMale . . .

From page 6

turizers for correcting or enhancing any skin condition.

At the ground floor is Essenses, the Cathedral of Skin, the Base of Face, the Epider-Mall. Intimidated, I started inching towards the exit door. Mercifully, a specialist materialized and walked me through the men's skincare maze. So is there a difference between men and women's skin? Apparently so, and these are the ways that experts have addressed the distinct needs of men.

Matis' Line Homme believes that its first duty is to trash old clichés surrounding men—to start with, that we should put up with oily or irritated skins, dull hair and unsuitable products. According to Matis' brochure: "Virility should no longer go hand in hand with austerity." That said, the Homme range provides men with 11 faithful partners. This is high-quality stuff in very masculine packaging. My personal favorite: Matis roll-on deodorant. Yes, ladies, I now use deodorant.

King of Shaves specializes in shaving and skincare "software platforms" for men, offering a number of "solutions" ranging from natural shaving oils to the low foam aloe based AlphaGels. This is one of the most popular international products, registering escalating sales in the United Kingdom. Given its affordable price, it is no wonder.

Lab Series is a comprehensive line of advanced oil-free and fragrance-free skin, shave, hair and body care products formulated expressly for men. Developed by Aramis, this range is meant to be an efficient problem-solving brand name. It is quite expensive, but it is potent stuff designed for the no-nonsense male on the move. My personal favorite: LS Tri-Gel Extra Shave Formula. It's like a milkshake for the face—that smooth!

Clarins, a world leader in women's skincare for the past half century, is now looking at the masculine face, too. Its current mantra—"Long live men's skin!"—heralds an intent to protect the skin while actively rehabilitating it as well. Clarins Men is quite extensive with products that address everything, from wrinkles to pimples. Surely one of the most impressive lines I have encountered. My personal favorite: Clarins Men Fatigue Fighter.

Essenses carries other leading brands as well, like L'Occitane, Clinique and Dermalogica. Aside from what you can put on your face, Rustan's also has three independent treatment facilities to provide several services. The Essenses Aesthetics center on the sixth floor exclusively utilizes Dermalogica products and specializes in tailor-made treatments. A professional staff ensures quality handling and their follow-up programs are second to none. Today, several days after my first visit, I still get regular phone calls from the staff inquiring about my skin condition. On the fourth floor, there's Institut Clarins for more intensive pampering. I thoroughly enjoyed a 75-minute facial in a private room overlooking the everyday crush of Ayala traffic—a view of hell from heaven. The ground floor at Essenses also has a treatment center tucked neatly out of view. Most of the treatments are either unisex or exclusive to women, but they are quietly developing more services strictly for men.

Admittedly, skin care should not be anyone's highest priority in life. The quality of one's skin does not reflect the quality of one's character—I'm sure Hitler hated blackheads as they are so very non-Aryan. But men should start attaching more significance to the endeavor, not because it's trendy, but because it's logical to protect our system's largest organ. History has not afforded us men the chance to wear our best faces, but maybe it is time we added great skin to our long list of male achievements. Besides, women have been encroaching traditional male territory for centuries. It's only fair for us to at least try and invade theirs.

MATIS
PARIS
HOMME
LE RÉVEIL

The Murad Method in black and white

By Cherish Garcia-Hernandez
Contributor

The Murad Method
Wrinkle-Proof, Repair, and Renew Your Skin with the Proven Five-Week Program
By Howard Murad, M.D., with
Dianne Partie Lange

TOUTED as one of the top four dermatologists in the United States by Vogue magazine, Dr. Howard Murad has taken his celebrity a step further with the publication of his book, "The Murad Method." In the book, Murad discusses at length his "Water Principle," the foundation of his unique system of rejuvenating and repairing the skin.

He tells us that the skin's appearance directly reflects one's overall health. Murad believes that besides oxygen, water is the most important substance that the body needs. We have been told that we need to drink eight glasses of water every day. And we need to make sure our cells keep the water, he says, by taking supplements with fatty acids and glucosamine.

And as part of his recommended regimen—the tried-and-tested cleanse/exfoliate/moisturize/and protect—Murad also prescribes a cocktail of supplements guaranteed to enhance skin hydration inside and out.

Much of the book is educational, with complex scientific concepts explained in plain English. The reader is guided step by step, and with a chart that indicates what products and steps to use depending on the condition of the skin—dry, oily, combination or sensitive skin with special needs.

Expectedly, Murad's products dominate the charts, but he also suggests several other brands as options. Better still, he educates the reader on what active ingredients to take note of when buying skincare products.

A pharmacist and board certified dermatologist, Murad was one of the first doctors to take advantage of the benefits of Alpha Hydroxy and Beta Hydroxy Acids in his skincare line. These acids work to exfoliate dead skin, keep pores clear, reverse sun damage, soften wrinkles and help control acne and oily skin. He was also one of the first doctors to appear in an infomercial selling his own line of skincare products successfully. Now he has also opened his own spa in California, whose famous clients include the likes of Calista Flockhart and Cheryl Tiegs.

Cosmeceuticals

There are many doctors touting their own lines of skincare products. I remember back in high school, consultations with the dermatologist meant buying pots and bottles of smelly treatments packaged in the most utilitarian ways. Nowadays, these mega-dermatologists are featured in glossy magazines like In Style and Vogue, and their products grace the shelves of stores like Sephora and Bergdorf Goodman.

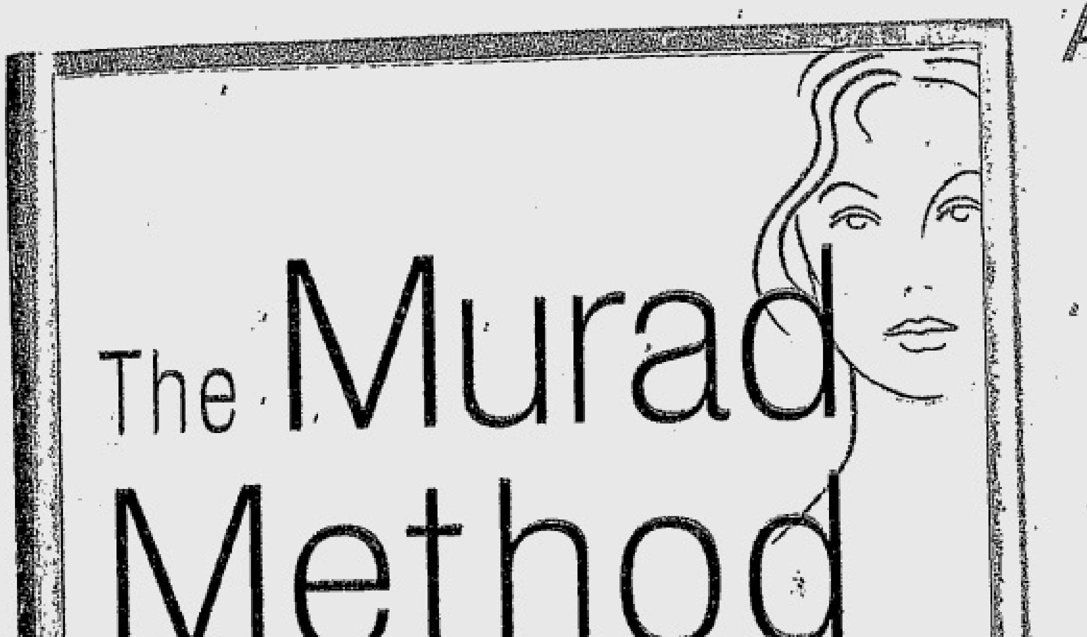
A few that immediately come to mind are Dr. Nicholas Perricone, author of the best-selling "Wrinkle Cure;" Dr. Dennis Gross, whose at-home peels have a cult following; Dr. Katie Rodan and Dr. Kathy Fields, whose Proactive line is the best selling acne line in the world and who have now come out with a new line being sold at exclusive department stores; and Dr. Zein Obagi, whose very aggressive line used in conjunction with prescription-strength Tretinoin has a rabid following here in the Philippines.

Critics argue that no matter how good a doctor is, his products--if sold in department stores or salons--do not contain prescription-strength ingredients. In other words, these products fall into the category of cosmeceuticals--a cross between cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, which come with no guarantees. Unlike drugs which can affect the structure and function of the body and therefore must prove their claim and be cleared by the FDA, they say cosmeceuticals cannot really penetrate the skin and produce the desired changes.

But sales of skincare products formulated created by doctors are outpacing traditional products, according to Allure magazine, so there must be some merit to them.

I tried out some samples of Murad's prod-

THE MURAD 8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NOVEMBER 15
Essenses Makati 4.00 pm
NOVEMBER 16
Essenses Alabang 2.00 pm

Howard Murad, M.D.
Dermatologist, Pharmacist;
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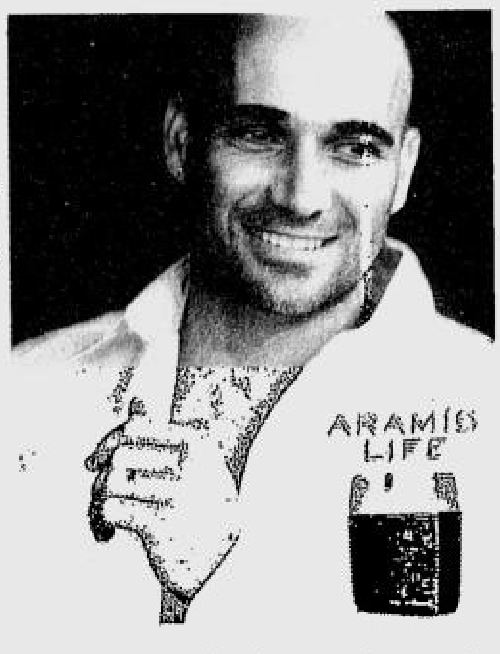
Agassi for Life

By Mozart Pastrano
Contributor



"LIFE, it's a great game," Andre Agassi once said.

Agassi is the tennis icon who won the Wimbledon in 1992, the United States Open in 1994 and 1999, Australian Open in 1995, 2000, 2001, and 2003, and French Open in 1999—the only male player to win all four Grand Slam Championships plus a gold medal at the US Olympics.

He and his wife,. Steffi Graf, herself a winner of 22 Grand Slam singles titles, recently had their second child, a baby girl they named Jaz Elle. They have a son named Jaden Gil, who was born on the very month they got married, October 2001.

How apt, that amid this celebratory swirl Agassi will next month "deliver" Aramis Life.

The Estée Lauder Companies' latest Aramis line is inspired by the tennis champ's winning attitude and passions

Says Raymond Matts, a vice president of The Estée Lauder Companies, which is launching the product under its Aramis division: "Andre Agassi is the embodiment of everything we want a man's fragrance to be. His winning attitude and passion for living were the inspiration behind the scent. He has such drive, ambition, and a terrific sense of self—everything we want the fragrance to convey."

Aramis Life belongs to the chypre family of fragrances and draws on the sparkle of crisp, wet citrus notes, including kumquat natureprint, lime natureprint, and bergamot. The exhilarating brew reflects Agassi's magnetic personality. His confidence is "captured" the invigorating green notes of cucumber, violet leaves, and spearmint perked up by such energetic spices as cardamom, coriander, and pepper. His masculinity is evoked by olive wood natureprint, the driving force behind the fragrance, whose vitality is enhanced by a warm woodsy blend of sandalwood, cedar wood, and leather.

The scent is a witty play of sophistication and sensuality, perfect for men in the know and on the go.

It confirms what we've suspected all along, that the sexiest thing to wear, besides attitude, is a well-chosen spritz of scent.

Partnership

Asked if his wife aproved of the scent, Agassi replied, "Oh yeah. It had to survive the home test first—and it did."

But while the pleasure of this scent is ephemeral, its effects are long-lasting. The partnership of Agassi and Aramis will benefit the Andre Agassi Charitable Foundation. Now on its 10th year, the foundation works with underprivileged, abused, and abandoned children in Las Vegas, Nevada through projects that range from sports tournaments to the establishment of an independent public school for at-risk children, the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy.

"The support of Aramis and The Estée Lauder Companies will enable us to broaden the scope of the foundation's work, expand the number of programs we're involved in—as well as the size of our involvement—and give even more children opportunities to learn and grow to their fullest potential," Agassi points out.

Head start

The sports superstar knows only too well how important it is for children to get a head start in life. His father, Mike, a former boxer who participated in the 1952 Olympics, introduced him to tennis and to the international circuit of accomplished tennis players.

Agassi was only four years old when he met and hit it off with such tennis greats as Bjorn Borg, Ilie Nastase, and Harold Solomon. In 1986, he turned pro and became the 16-year-old prodigy of Nick Bollettieri.

In an interview with Sports Illustrated, Agassi said he doesn't think about being recognized as one of the greatest players in tennis history. "First of all, it's not for me to decide. I have to focus on what I'm doing. Secondly, you can never prove who the best player in the history of tennis is. I have so much respect for all the great champions in the past, and to think about how they match up against each other is great entertainment, but it stops there," he said.

"My love for the game is based on the mano-a-mano competition and the challenge of problem-solving when you're on the court, figuring out a way to get through a tough match on your own. That's the life lesson for me."

From child prodigy to child supporter, Agassi has raised more than $23 million for his foundation, which is headed by his childhood best friend, Perry Rogers. He has also won a string of humanitarian awards for his foundation work.

Now he clearly essays wise judgment in choosing to enter a powerhouse partnership with The Estée Lauder Companies. The firm's Aramis and Designer Fragrances division is a market leader in designer fragrances and skin care, with presence in more than 130 countries.

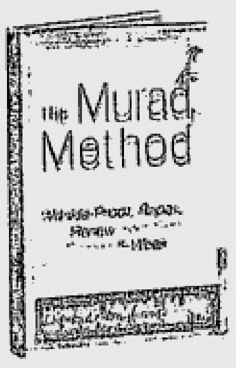
Seems it's mutual admiration for Agassi and Aramis. Notes John Karp, president of Aramis and Designer Fragrances: "Anyone who has watched Agassi play tennis knows how determined he is, even in the face of overwhelming odds. But not only is he a great athlete, he is also a magnetic, confident, compelling personality who is able to balance career, family, and philanthropy. He epitomizes the drive to surpass expectations."

Aramis Life is expected to surpass expectations, too, when it becomes available globally. It is packaged in cool fluted glass sculpted to fit comfortably in a man's hand. Its polished silver cap sits securely on the bottle, concealing its natural spray pump atomizer.

The line consists of Aramis Life Eau de Toilette, the collection's signature product (50 ml for P2,100 and 100 ml for P2,800), Life After Shave—a traditional clear splash (P2,100), Life After Shave Balm—a soothing emulsion to moisturize and calm the skin (P2,000), Conditioning Shower Gel—crystal-clear all-over body cleanser with rich foaming lather (P950), Deodorant Stick (P950), and Antiperspirant Deodorant Spray (P950).

The Murad. . .

From page 7



ucts. The Essential C cleanser, which has everything a good cleanser should have, has a mild citrus scent and rinses out quickly, leaving skin clean and refreshed. If you're one to spend on cleansers, this is a great choice. I'm partial to basic, no-frills cleansers because I'm of the school of thought that anything that washes off so soon cannot really do anything significant. The Purifying Face Scrub, meant to be used once a week as a scrub or mask, was nice but it dried out my skin a bit. Maybe it's good for oily skin.

The Essential Night Moisture and Day Moisture with SPF 15 were both nice and hydrating, and not greasy. Night Reform, which is supposed to stimulate cell renewal, did make my skin look clearer in the morning, but it's only been a week, and that's not enough time to see conclusive results. My favorite product is the Combination Skin Treatment which is a gel that utilizes AHA and BHA to even out both oily and dry areas in a patented formula. I used this in the morning and found my confused skin behaving! And my perennial redness subsided. I'm seriously going to see if I can add this as a staple product in my personal routine.

The number of products Murad offers is overwhelming. The key is arriving at the right combination. Based on countless testimonials and reviews, finding the right products comes with the promise of ageless, flawless skin.

Email the author at cherishgh@yahoo.com

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JI INVADES SCHOOLS! SEE PAGE 6!

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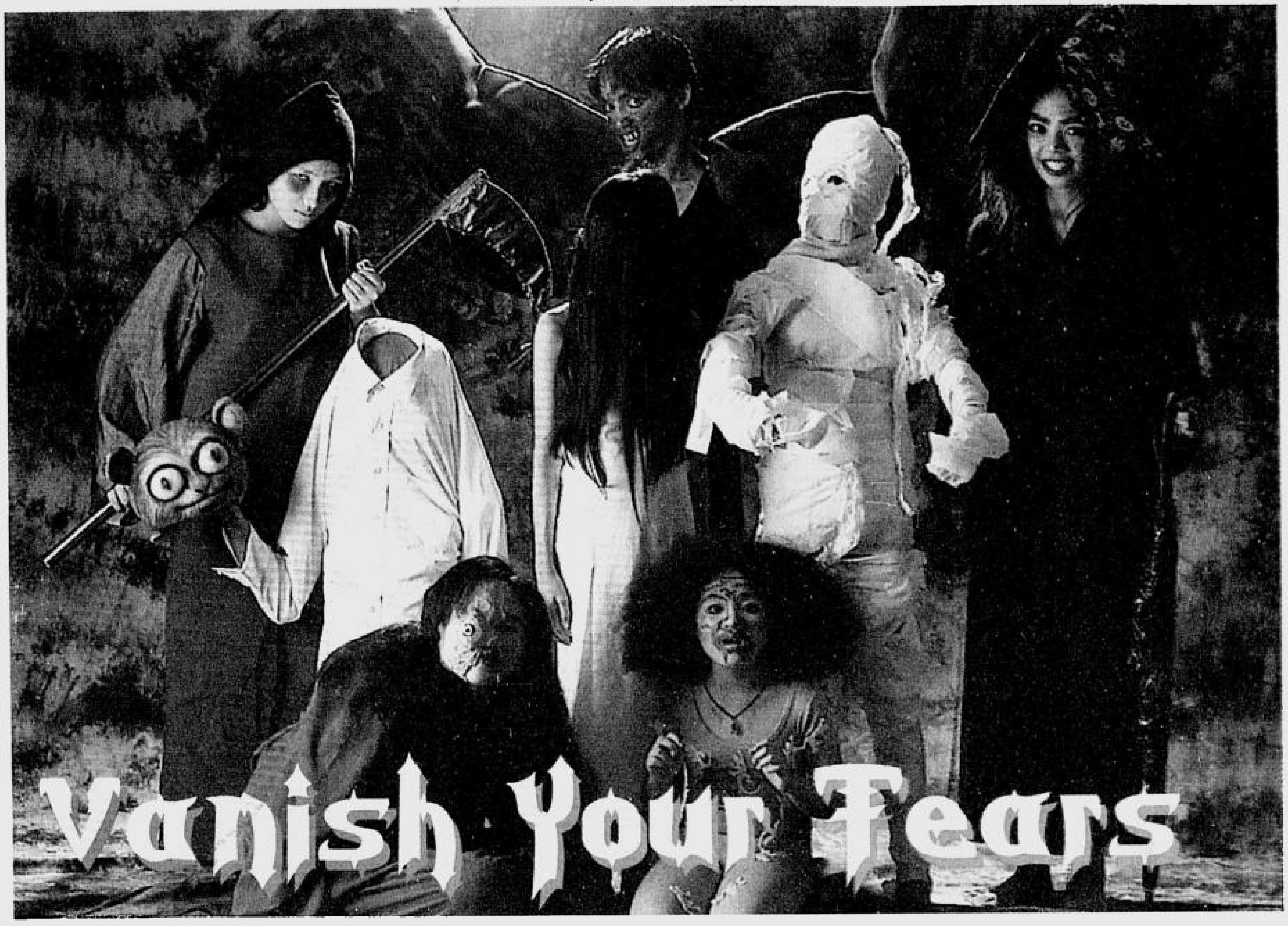
Junior Inquirer Special

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2003 ✦ 8 PAGES ✦ VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6

What's Inside:

- Inspiring Me to Make a Difference Page 2
- Gravity Plane Page 4
- Xiao Mao and the Strange Little Girl Page 4
- Art Is-Kool Page 8



Vanish Your Fears

BOO! These scary monsters are budding young theater performers from Kids at Play Center for Arts and Development in Manila. They made their own costumes for this Halloween shoot. From the top is Joanbel Savellano as the *manananggal*; (2nd row) Febie Guzman as death; Lauro Aldana as headless boy; Irika Genoguin as Sadako; Krisia Cabatay as the mummy; Emmalyn Trinidad as the witch; (bottom row) Sarah Joy Jao as the hunchback; and Iaj Ricci Antonino as a monster. RUDY ESPERAS

Shake off those jitters, shivers and heebie-jeebies with tips from JUNIOR INQUIRER *Special readers*

by Eline Santos

WHAT gives you the willies? Everyone gets scared once in a while. JI Special asked kids what they were most scared of and what stuff they do to stop being afraid.

Ghosts

Many kids say they're afraid of ghosts.

Mikaila Paula Lizada, a fourth-grader from PWU-JASMS, Manila says she's scared of monsters and white ladies.

To conquer her fears, "I pray the 'Our Father.' "

First-graders Nichi Lousine Felipe and Stella Gutierrez from St. Joseph's College, Quezon City say they're frightened of ghosts.

Nichi becomes scared when she's alone. Stella says she's afraid every night when she's lying in bed.

"I just go to sleep," says Stella. Her parents watching over her helps.

Both Nichi and Stella agree that a kiss good night from Mommy keeps the willies away.

Remote areas on the other hand give Jose Mari Cleofas or Cheeno, a sixth-grader from Notre Dame of Greater Manila, in Caloocan, the creeps.

"There might be '*lamang lupa*,' or ghosts there," he says.

Cheeno thinks having faith in God is one way to not be fearful.

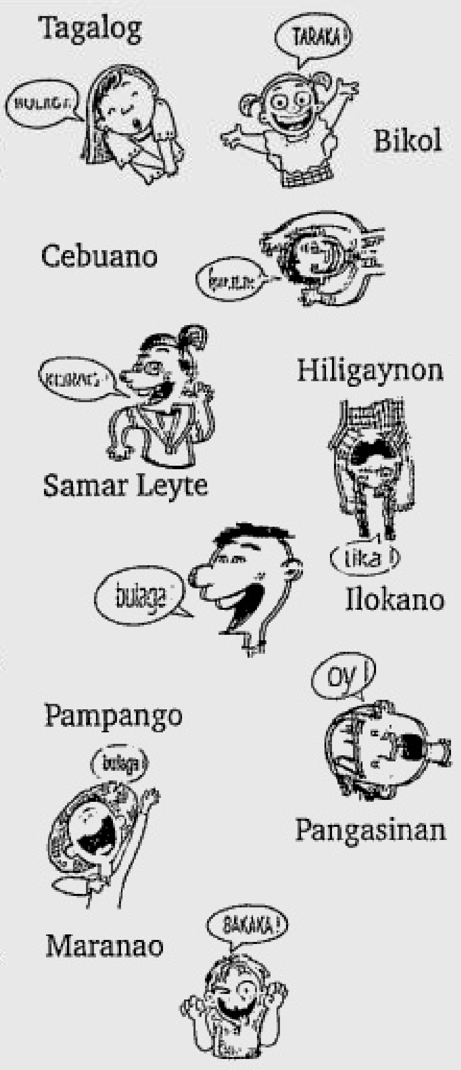
Creepy Crawlies

"I'm not scared of ghosts," says

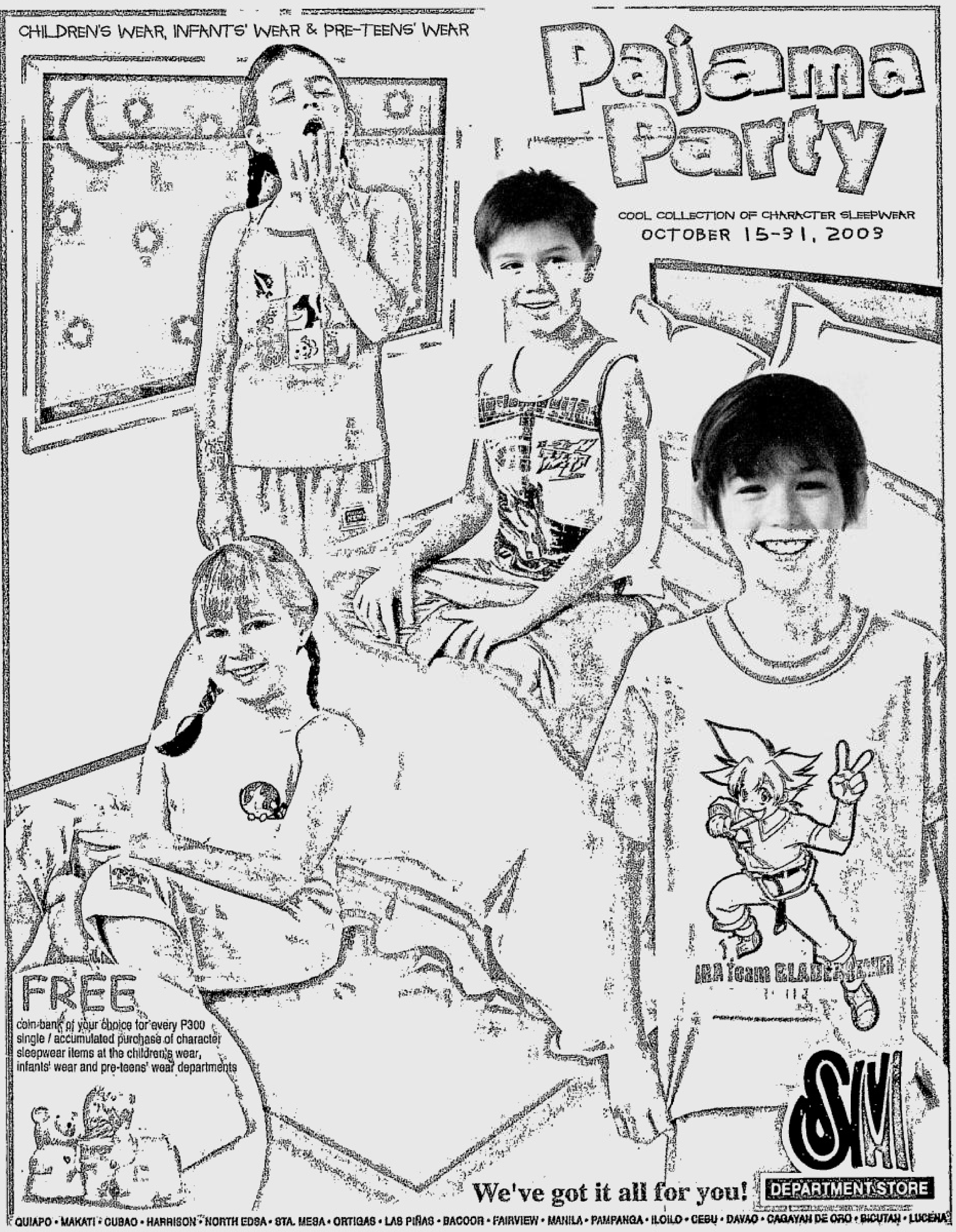
Vanish/ p. 3

Panakot

Nine ways to startle your sister in the Philippines.



Courtesy of translation division of Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino under commission chairman Dr. Nita Buenaobra.


CHILDREN'S WEAR, INFANTS' WEAR & PRE-TEENS' WEAR

Pajama Party

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Junior INQUIRER

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THE JUNIOR INQUIRER SPECIAL is published by the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER every last Saturday of the month. We accept poetry, short story, essay and art contributions for our For or By Kids section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the piece (double-spaced on letter-sized paper), along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Junior Inquirer Editor.

Letters to the editor may be sent to our e-mail address <ji@inquirer.com.ph>. Our office is at the Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, Philippines, with telephone number 897-8808 local 340. Snail mail: P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines. E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph

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Child-Friendly Awardee
2003 Best Children's Newspaper Awardee

Win the JI Awards!

IF you are a staffer of your school paper, this just might be the contest for you: our first ever JUNIOR INQUIRER Awards!

At the end of the school year, we will pick the best editorial cartoon, feature story, short story, poetry, and news story from school papers all over Metro Manila. The top prize is JI's School Paper of the Year award (though of course, you have to send us your entries first).

The only catch is that the contest is open to private schools that receive the JUNIOR INQUIRER Metro every week. If you're still not on our distribution list, you can write Donald Lim, our Assistant Vice President for Classifieds and Marketing.

That being said, this contest is the most exciting thing yet to happen in JI history.

A lot of young writers have had good beginnings with JI. We have our correspondents who get their stories, essays, and interviews published in the paper.

Sometimes readers who contribute their poetry, short stories, journal pages, and letters win unexpected awards aside from the thrill of getting published.

Fourteen-year-old Francisco Dipasupil Barros won UNICEF's Outstanding Child Writer for his touching essay "Goodbye Mom" published in JI last February 2, 2002.

You might follow in the footsteps of 15-year-old Jessica Robredo who won the 3rd Ramon Magsaysay Essay Writing Competition last August. Her award-winning essay is published right here on this page, courtesy of the Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation.

Then again, you can give Xavier School's Hoofprints a run for their money. Hoofprints won the Catholic Mass Media Awards for best school paper twice in a row.

And now you have the JI Awards.

The competition promises to be tough. But the victory will be very sweet indeed. It's not everyday that your school paper is said to be the best among a hundred schools in Metro Manila.

So what are you waiting for? Get those pens flowing and send us your entries.

JOURNAL PAGES

A Basketball Fan Speaks

By Michelle Anne Laurel
St. Paul College, Pasig
Kapitolyo, Pasig

NO confetti rained down. No balloons fell from the coliseum ceiling. As I watched, I wondered, did the confetti and balloons just happen to be blue and white? And why was it that most of them weren't even used.

It seemed nobody came prepared for a yellow-and-green victory. Even though many people expected the FEU Tamaraws to win, only a few believed it would really happen.

I study in St. Paul College, Pasig. But it my school, an Ateneo versus La Salle fight is a very big deal. It's almost as if most of us were students of either school. Many wanted to have that rivalry relived again in the UAAP finals. Unfortunately, it only happened in the semi-finals.

I am a basketball enthusiast and I was once part of that crowd. But last summer, I started giving my full support to the FEU Tamaraws, then the core of the VIVA team in the Philippine Basketball League.

Coach Koy's eldest daughter, Hannah, is a friend of mine. Through her, I got to meet the team and shared little moments with them. Short as those encounters may be, I got a better view of how great the team is, and how cohesive they are.

Hard work, team effort and love of God—these are the things that brought them the championship. Their encounter may not have been watched closely by the whole nation, but as the coaches say, a win is a win. And this championship is still sweet for the whole FEU family and the enthusiasts that support them.

Congratulations to the FEU Tamaraws, 2003 UAAP champions!

[illegible]

By Jessica Marie Robredo
Unibersidad de Sta. Isabel
Naga City

InSpiration

I WAS only 12 years old in August 2000 when Jesse Manalastas Robredo was proclaimed the Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Government Service. I was a personal witness to how honored this man felt with the recognition given to him. It was not until I was asked by my English teacher, however, to go over the list of past and present Ramon Magsaysay awardees and write an essay on one of them that I was able to fully understand the enormity of the award. The awardees, I soon learned, were exceptional men and women who bravely dared to make a difference in making Asia, and maybe the world, a better place.

It was easy for me to handpick Jesse Robredo from the list of 229 awardees because he is one person who has truly inspired me and continues to inspire me to make a difference. To write about his life and his work, however, is a very daunting task, because he is, incidentally, a person very close to my heart. Much has been written about his outstanding work as Mayor of Naga City from 1988 to 1998 and how he bravely fought corruption, vice, poverty, economic stagnancy and dramatically led Naga City from an inefficient and dispirited city to being one of the country's most progressive cities. When the euphoria brought by the EDSA Revolution started to wane and people were starting to doubt if a more authoritarian leadership would work better for the Filipino people, Jesse Robredo showed us all that the people are still the most important resource and restored our faith in democracy. He not only worked for the poor but worked with them and involved them every step of the way. He has always pushed for growth with equity, transparency, integrity, and has brought back honor to his office. The most essential part of his accomplishments are, indeed, those that are invisible to the naked eye.

I am already 15 years old, but I must admit that to this day, the lessons of democracy, of fiscal management, of people empowerment, are still quite difficult for me to comprehend. What I do understand is that the people of Naga City look up to Jesse Robredo because he succeeded in making them feel he is just like any one of them. He is simple and humble in ways. He wears the City Hall uniform to work, is in his office before 8 a.m., goes around without bodyguards, and does not believe he is entitled to special perks just because of his office. He lives very modestly as his house and office

Inspiring/ p. 7

Straight from JI Readers

You can reach us via e-mail! Our address is ji@inquirer.com.ph
Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and phone number.
Hope to hear from you soon!

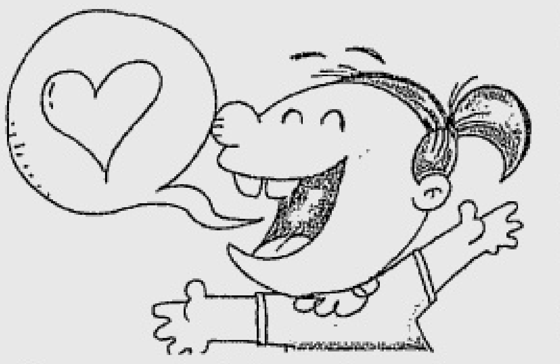
Letter from School of St. Anthony

HELLO to all JI readers and especially the JI staff! I would like to say CONGRATULATIONS for keeping Junior Inquirer amazing and interesting. I always eagerly wait for the last Saturday of each month for issues of JI Special.

I always can't wait to read the next Shirley's Pets cartoon strip.

I also like reading Journal Pages from other kids. I like joining your contests and I love the *kalabaw* you put on the first page. I love reading David Gilbert's Buckles because it's funny. I remember reading about my schoolmates in the article titled "Late But Great" (JI Special, Spet. 27, 2003). My school was so happy about that! Ray Chester Ambida and Janella Salamania are my level mates.

I also love reading the "Kids 'r 'riffic" section because kids nominate other kids to be featured. I love answering "The Lunch Box." I also love reading "World Scope" because I kind of need to improve my Geography and History.



I love to read all the stories and poems you feature, too. I'm also writing some and I have a lot of them with different titles stored in my computer. Some are adapted and my ideas all came from JI. Congratulations! You've done a great job. More power and God bless!—**CARIZA ANNA B. OPANA**, Grade 6-Makabayan, School of Saint Anthony, Quezon City

Little Mischiefs Fan

DEAR JI,

I've always wanted to be a writer or contributor to Junior Inquirer Special. The works of the contributors and the cartoonists are awesome! By the way, I loved Lara Saguisag's poem collection titled "Little Mischiefs" (Junior Inquirer Special, Sept. 27, 2003).

I like writing poetry, short stories and essays. Playing basketball is also one of my pastimes, although some people say it's awkward for a girl like me to play basketball. I'm feature writer of our school paper, The Gold Mines.

JI Special inspires children like me who want to be writers someday.—**KIM C. TIANGCO**, Grade 6-A, Adriatico Memorial School, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

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Vanish Your Fears

(from page 1)

10-year-old Gertrude Gloria. "My mom says don't be afraid of the dead, be afraid of the living."

Gertrude, a fifth-grader from St. Joseph's College, doesn't believe in spooks. She is however wary of insects.

"When an insect approaches, I scream sometimes—especially when I'm taken by surprise."

She just tries to avoid them.

Snakes on the other hand are what alarms 13-year-old Eljean Tesoro, a second year high school student from Abangan Norte School in Bulacan.

"Snake bites can kill you," she says.

Jessica Angeles, a sixth-grader from Miriam College in Quezon City, is unnerved by cockroaches.

"They're icky," she says.

When she sees one, "I run anywhere as long as it's far away from it."

That is, until Daddy comes to the rescue by squashing it.

The Dark

Don John Lucero, fifth-grader from St. Joseph's College, admits he used to be afraid of the dark when he was younger.

"If I had to get something from a dark room, I just get out as fast as I can, as soon as I get it."

Geri Nicole Chan, a fifth-grader from Southville International School in Las Piñas, also dislikes the dark.

And when she's scared, Geri does only one thing: "I close my eyes."

Heights

Sixth-graders Shizuka Meo Maezono and Alyssa Patricia Narsico from Southville International School, Las Piñas share a fear of heights.

Shizuka for instance avoids roller coasters. It's because of that feeling of falling.

Both girls say doing what they're afraid of with friends helps them overcome their fears.

If she had to climb a ladder, Alyssa just says, "I will not look down."

Death

Crystle Esplana, a sixth-grader from St. Joseph's College, fears she might suddenly kick the bucket while asleep. Of course, she can't really go without slumber. What then?

"I pray. And I lie next to my Mommy," Crystle says.

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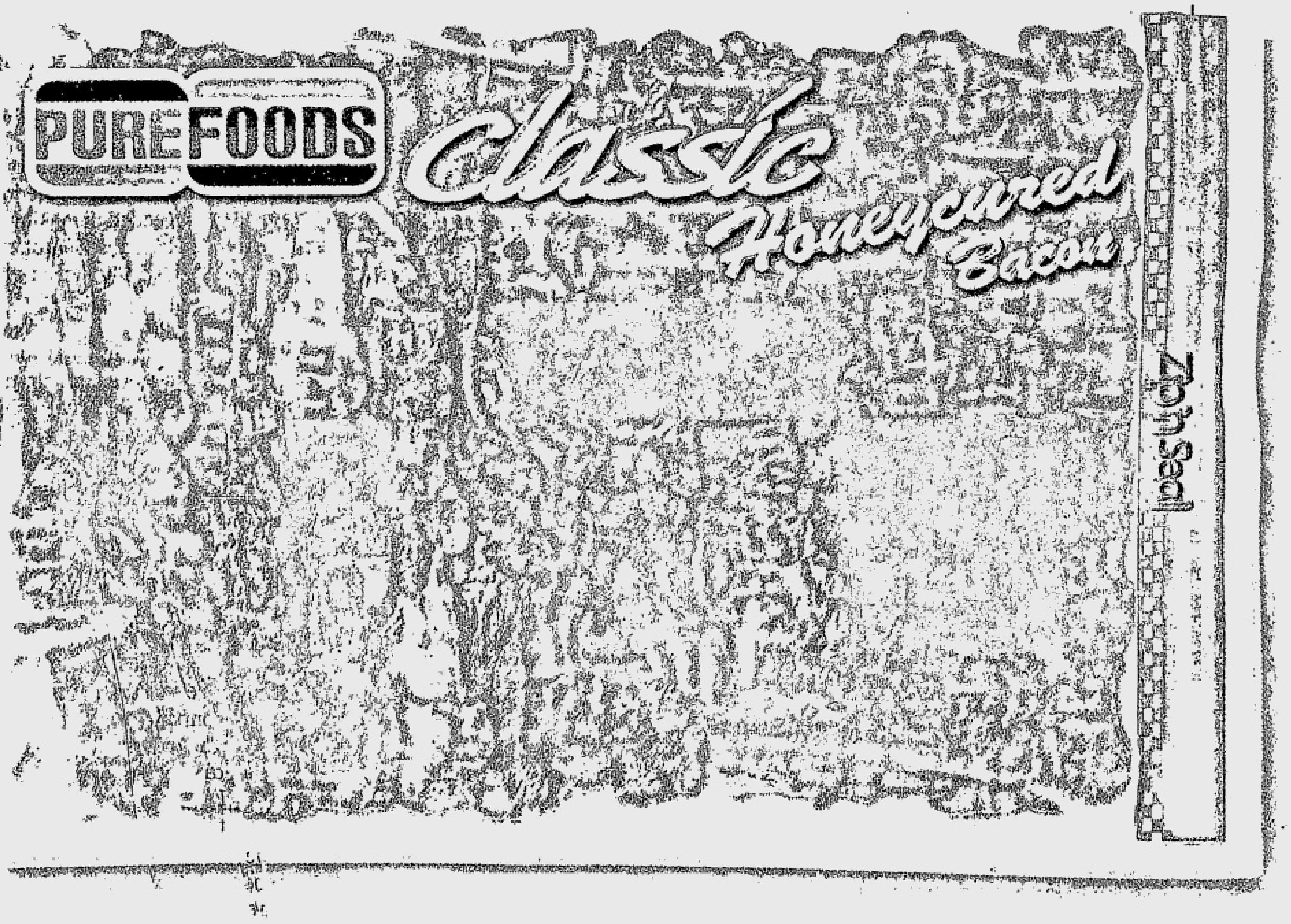
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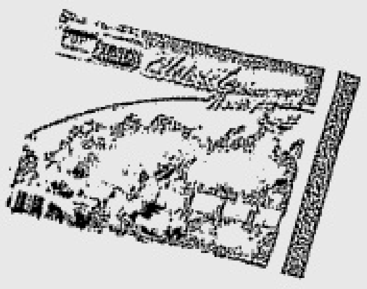

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Halloween Na!

By Maria Zobel Certeza

WE'RE not really sure if Pinoy kids still go house to house saying "*Nangangaluluwa po*!" The Pinoy Halloween is usually marked by scaring your sibling silly. But here's how other countries celebrate Oct. 31.

MI MUMU!

Los Dias de los Muertos in Mexico is not a scary day at all! Although it is the day of death, Mexicans mark the day by making people laugh. Some people dress up as ghouls, ghosts, mummies and skeletons and parade through the town carrying an open coffin.

SEATS FOR THE DEAD

In Czechoslovakia, chairs are placed by the fireside on Halloween night. There is one chair for each living family member and one for each departed family member's spirit.

PUNKIE HALLOWEEN

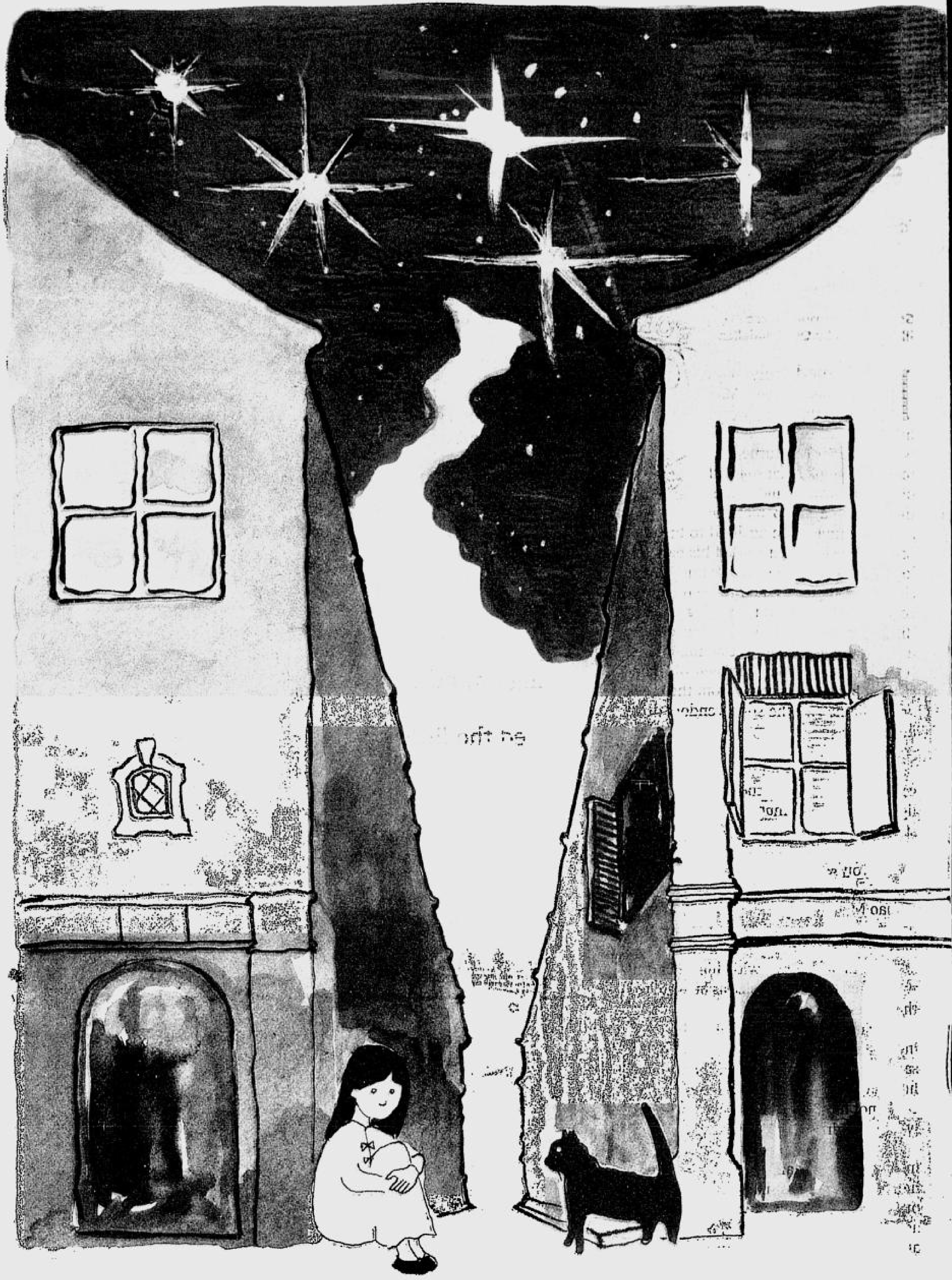
English children make "punkies," a Jack-o-Lantern like ornament out of large beetroots, upon which they carve a design of their choice. Then, they would carry their "punkies" through the streets while singing a song as they knock on doors and ask for money.

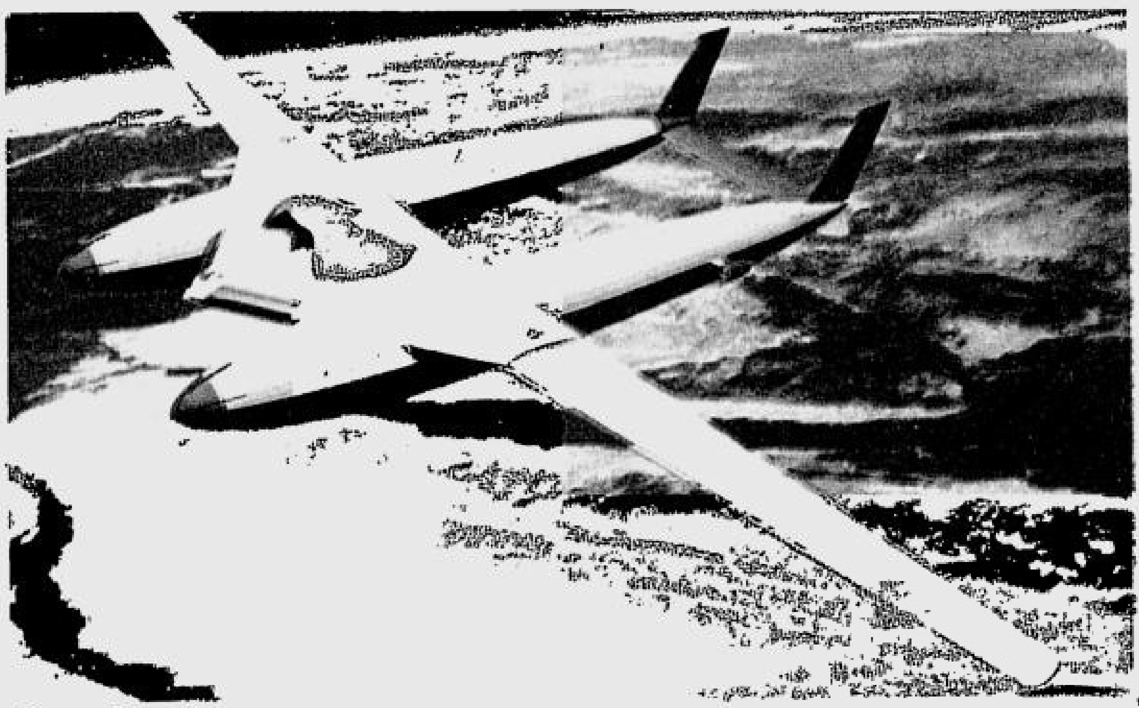
NO KNIVES DAY

In Germany, people put away their knives on Halloween night. They believe roaming spirits might hurt themselves on cutlery left in the open.

JULY HALLOWEEN

The Japanese celebrate the *Obon* festival, also known as *Matsuri* or *Urabon*. Special food is prepared and bright red lanterns are hung everywhere. Candles are lit and placed into lanterns which are then set afloat on rivers and seas. A fire is lit every night to show their ancestors where their families might be found.





Gravity Plane

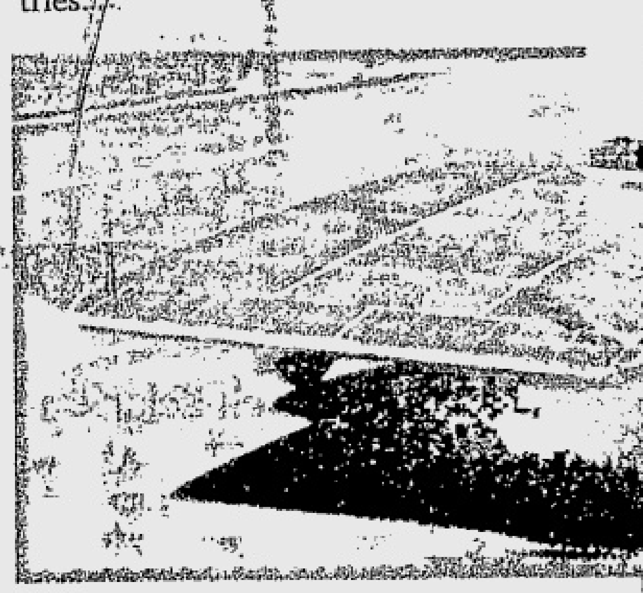
HUNT Aviation Corporation designs a "gravity plane," a no-fuel aircraft designed to be lifted into a high altitude by helium pantoons then return to earth on retractable glider wings, using gravity acceleration. *AFP*

Experimental Piglets

VIRUS-free piglets are born from a pig fed only with a special scientific diet at a laboratory in Beijing. Scientists hope they have bred the world's first disease-resistant pigs. *AFP*

WORLD SCOP
Beijing, China
Vatican, Rome
Taipei, Taiwan
Mississippi USA
Adelaide, Australia

AN electronic Koran, the sacred book of the Islamic items being display in Taipei in a Governmental Orgnization (NGO) meeting f tries.



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Xiao Mao and the Strange Little Girl

Story by Christine Rivero
Illustrations by Ouie Badelles

FOR or BY
KIDS

IT seemed only days ago when Xiao Mao thought that the world had been set on fire. Everywhere, the air had turned into smoke, smoke that smelled of paper burning and something else—a sharp metallic smell that made the air hard to breathe. Loud explosions that rattled his ears followed Xiao Mao wherever he ran. Bright, shattering lights seemed to pierce every corner. With all his fur standing on end, Xiao Mao despaired then of ever finding a safe place to hide in, yet he found one. It was a secret place, between old rain-stained buildings, not far from the creek where he helped the soup vendors drive away mice.

He was crouched in that place now because of the smoke, the noise, and the lights had once more taken over the streets.

"Do you see the bad spirits, little cat?"

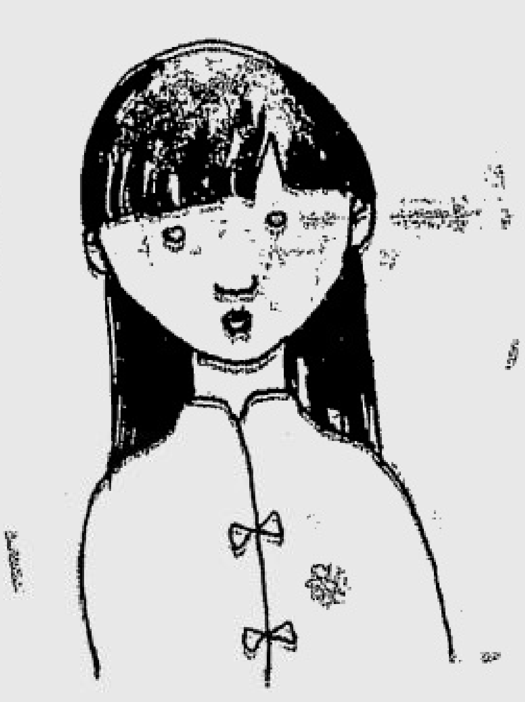
Xiao Mao nearly hissed as he whipped about. With all that was going on, he never noticed the little girl who had been sharing the shadows with him. His tail was puffed to twice his size as he watched the girl closely.

"I think the bad spirits might be looking for me," he heard her say. Xiao Mao saw that she was seated on the ground, hugging her knees. He wondered how he could not have noticed her earlier. Meanwhile, the girl continued talking.

"Every New Year, Mama and Papa make me turn on all the lights inside our house. Then I shout in every room, 'Get out, bad spirits! Go away!' Again and again, I shout at them and clap my hands and make lots of noise until the dragon comes down our street. So I'm sure they all still remember me, and they must be very mad."

The little girl was wearing a white dress with little flowers sewn onto the skirt. Her white-stockinged feet were slipped into a dainty pair of shiny black shoes. Xiao Mao thought he might have seen a little girl like her, once, walking down the street with her mother and father.

> "With all that was going on, he never noticed the little girl who had been sharing the shadows with him."



Since it appeared that the little girl wasn't going to hurt him, Xiao Mao began to feel calmer, and his fur smoothed back in place. He almost wanted to approach the little girl, but he sat away watching her a bit longer. From where he was, he could tell that her skin felt very cold.

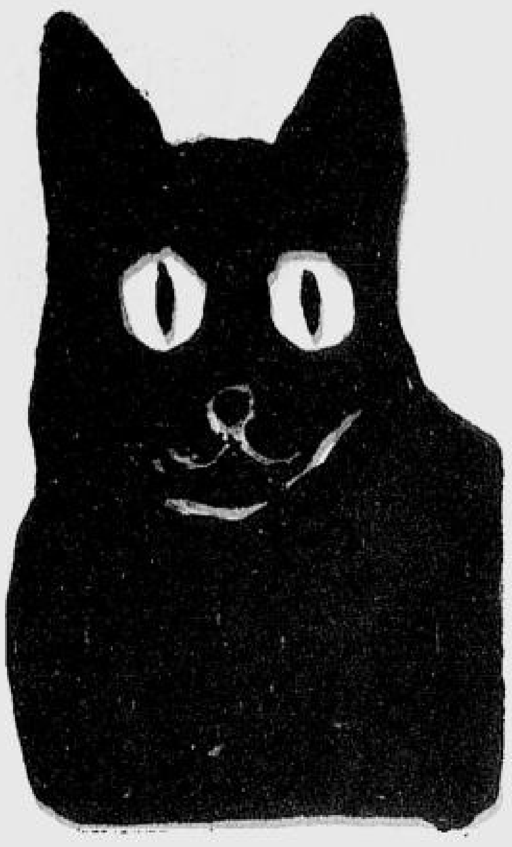
Then, very quietly, she said, "I miss Mama and Papa."

She begins to tell Xiao Mao about how she and her parents would put up their Christmas decorations as early as November and how they would take it all down only after the Chinese New Year. She recalled how she would receive *ampao* from her aunts and uncles, and the grandparents that she called Angkong and Amah. She and her Papa would then decide which of the little red envelopes would go to the bank, which she could use to buy anything she wanted, and which one she would keep under her pillow for good luck.

"Last Christmas, I asked Papa to buy me watercolor pencils with my *ampao* money," she said, and added. "I wonder who'll use them now."

Xiao Mao heard the sadness in the little girl's voice even as she described the food that will be set aside for her at the family's New Year dinner. "Mama will pour nido soup in a small bowl. She'll peel shrimp and place them on a plate with pieces of sweet roast pork, some pancit, fried rice and lumpia too. I'm sure she'll give me a big piece of the white fish with lots of mayonnaise. Then, on a saucer, she'll put my favorite *tikoy*, cooked the way I like, with brown crunchy parts and a soft, sticky middle."

The little girl looked out to where the many, many glowing lights made the darkness dance. "I'm waiting for them to call me," she said to Xiao Mao, "but I'm afraid to go out because some of the bad spirits might still be there."



Xiao Mao wanted to tell her that he couldn't see any bad spirits, but he didn't know how. Instead, he decided to wait with her and listen.

Many happy voices filled the first moonless night of the New Chinese Year, and Xiao Mao sat with the little girl until, later, she was able to hear the sound of her mother calling.

***Christine** would like to dedicate this story to Flipper, her pet who passed away early this year. Xiao Mao is one of Flipper's nicknames. It means "little cat."*

***Jose**, 38, is re-learning how to be a child again. His teacher is a half-blind Pug named Stitch. Jose and Stitch live and play in Marikina and Quezon City.*

Saint of the Gutters

MOTHER Theresa is beatified by Pope John Paul II on Oct. 19 on St Peter Square at the Vatican.Thousands of pilgrims flocked to the Vatican just six years after the death of the nun they called the "Saint of the gutters." *AFP*

E-Koran

Moslems, is among
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or Asian coun-
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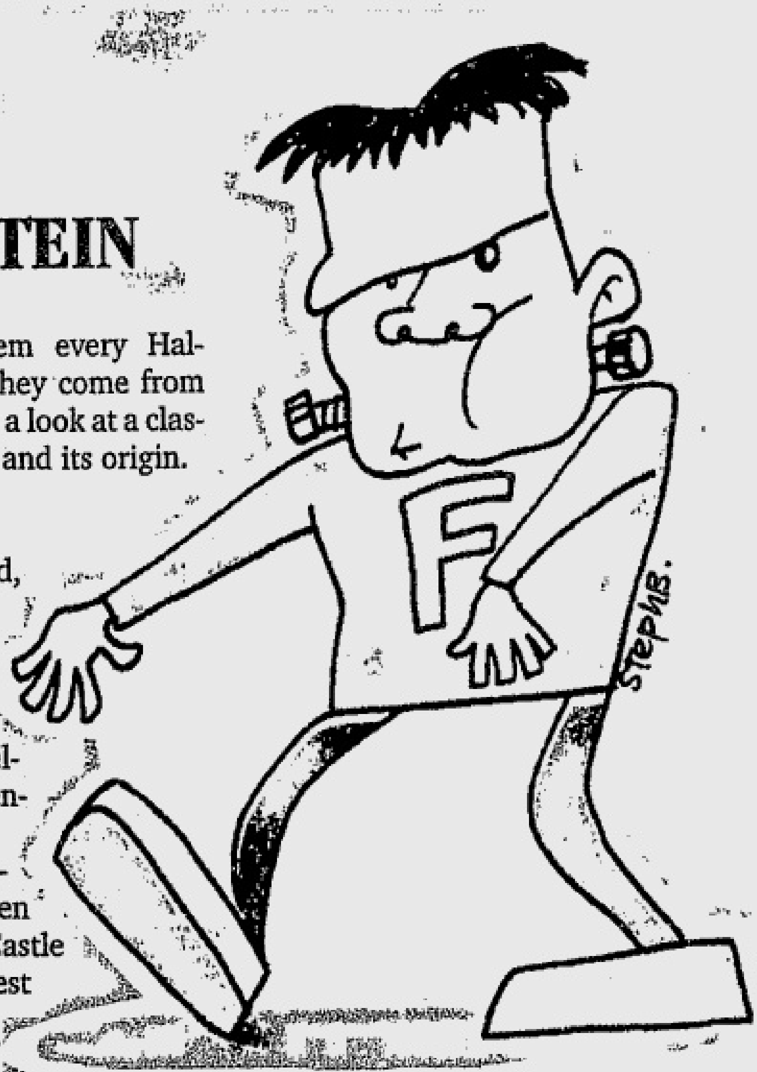
Dutch Solar Car

AMSTERDAM wins the 3010 km World Solar Challenge from Darwin to Adelaide, Australia with its Nuon Solar Team car 'Nuna II.' *AFP*

CREATURE FEATURE: FRANKENSTEIN



WE read about them every Halloween. But where do they come from anyway? JI Special takes a look at a classic Halloween character and its origin.

FRANKIE-BABY

This rough-stitched, large, screw-headed creature was the creation of Victor Frankenstein, a disturbed scientist from Mary Shelley's novel, "Frankenstein".

The Frankenstein legend came into being when Mary Shelley visited Castle Frankenstein in southwest Germany when she was 19 years old. She found out that the owner of the castle, the disturbed alchemist Konrad Dippel, named the castle after its original owner, the von Frankenstein family. Dippel had wanted to transform the castle into a laboratory.

When Shelley wrote the novel in the 1800's, scientists were known to steal bodies from graves so they could cut them up for their studies. *Maria Zobel Certeza*

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Math and Adrian

Good grades get him a toy. But this boy knows intelligence is the best reward

By Eline Santos

TEN-year-old Adrian Salvo has been good with numbers since he was in kindergarten.

"I always got the best in math awards," says the fourth-grader from UP Integrated School, Quezon City. Is it any wonder he's the level representative in their Math Club?

As a reward for his good grades, his parents often gave him a toy of his choice. He used to go for Lego. Even now he's interested in learning robotics. But lately, he has been picking Zoids.

The rewards are not what keeps him going though. He just wants to do well. He also likes being challenged.

"I don't give up easily. Sometimes someone gets better scores than me. I try harder. The closer I get to the top, the better."

Adrian enjoys his Science and English subjects too.

For Adrian, hard work is much more needed than intelligence to succeed.

"Even if you're intelligent but you don't work hard, then a more diligent kid will get ahead of you," he says.

Being both hardworking and smart, Adrian gets requests for help from his classmates from time to time.

"It's nice when you know something. I don't give away the answer. I just explain how to get it."

ADRIAN plays with his "medals," the toys he gets for doing well.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Kids'r'rific

Kid 'r'rific

nomination form

I nominate: ______________

____

Age: ______________

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because: (Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

____

____

____

____

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____

____

She/he lives at ______________

____

____

and studies at ______________

____

Her/his contact number is: ______________

____

Sender's Name: ______________

____

Sender's Age & School: ______________

____

Sender's Address: ______________

____

Sender's Contact No. ______________

____

THE JI INVASION

Junior Inquirer invades Metro Manila schools

JUNIOR INQUIRER METRO has been brought directly to top Metro Manila grade schools for the past five months. How do kids feel about getting JI in school instead of with the Philippine Daily Inquirer?

"It's okay. It's better to get it in school so we can read it," says Pauline Merilleno, a sixth-grader from De La Salle Zobel in Muntinlupa.

"It's easier than going somewhere else to get the paper. Kids are not too interested in newspapers," says Louanne Ard Novela, a fifth-grader at St. Joseph's College.

By bringing it to campuses, Louanne thinks more kids would like it.

JI visited Zobel on its school tour to launch the JUNIOR INQUIRER Awards. The JI Awards is open to elementary students in Metro Manila who write essays, stories, poetry and feature articles.

Thirteen-year-old Florante Christopher de Jesus Jr., editor in chief of the school paper Young Observer, says he hopes to win in the JI awards.

The seventh-grader adds, "What's important is that each and every one of us would do our very best for the success of our school publications."

JI is distributed to 104 schools in Metro Manila on the first, second and third week of each school month. If you want your school to be included in the distribution list, please write Mr. Donald Lim, assistant vice president for classifieds and marketing. JI Special, the broadsheet version of JUNIOR INQUIRER, comes out with the Philippine Daily Inquirer every last Saturday of the month.

Contest Mechanics

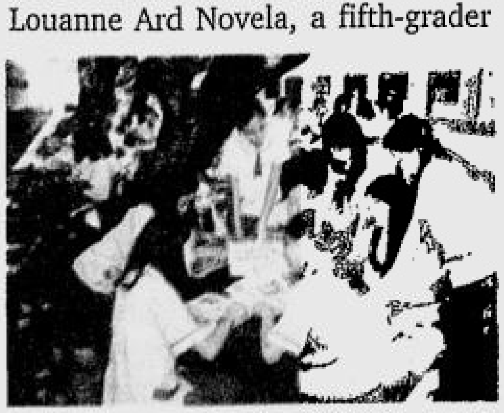
The JI Awards is open to students from Grades 4 to 7 who are enrolled in private schools that receive JI Metro.

Students must not be professionals (getting paid for their work). Entries must be original works published only in the school paper within the current school year.

Deadline for entries is March 20, 2004. Winners will be chosen for the following categories: best editorial cartoon, best feature story, best short story, best poetry, best news story and school paper of the year.

Submit entries to the Philippine Daily Inquirer office. Include the student's name, age, school, grade level, name of school paper and position in the editorial board. Also include a certificate of enrollment or photocopy of student's school ID.

Entries must have an endorsement letter signed by the school paper's moderator and noted by the principal. Each student may submit only one entry per category but can enter more than one. *Eline Santos*



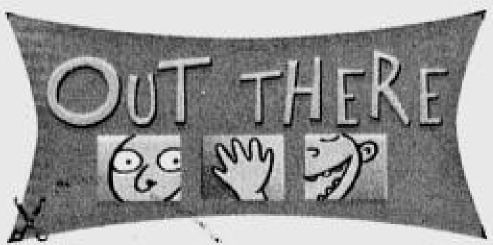
MIRIAM College students chat about JI Metro during recess.

JI METRO is part of this Ateneo Grade School class' lessons.

Junior Inquirer

READING TIME! La Salle Zobel kids check out their JI Metro copies.

PDI PHOTOS



By Tere Z. Cruz

Got something for Out There? Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax number is 897-4794, and our e-mail address is ji@inquirer.com.ph.

Contests

ART FOR CHANGE. Senator Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel Jr., invites kids to join his Art for Change on-the-spot art contest on **Oct. 25, 10 a.m.** at the Central Atrium, Robinson's Place, Novaliches, Q.C. The contest is open to all children ages six to 15. For more information, call Eppie Sonjaco at 552-6733, 551-6382 or 552-6745.

ARTSY HALLOW'S EVE: Faber-Castell leads the way to a scare-free Halloween **Children's Party** on Oct. 26 at the Quezon Ballroom, Shangri-La Makati. Coloring sheets of different designs and coloring materials will be given to participants. **Faber-Castell** will also be giving away Faber-Castell gift packages to kids who'll draw the scariest and most colorful artworks. For tickets and inquiries, call Shangri-La Makati at 813-8888 or visit them at Ayala Avenue corner Makati Ave., Makati.

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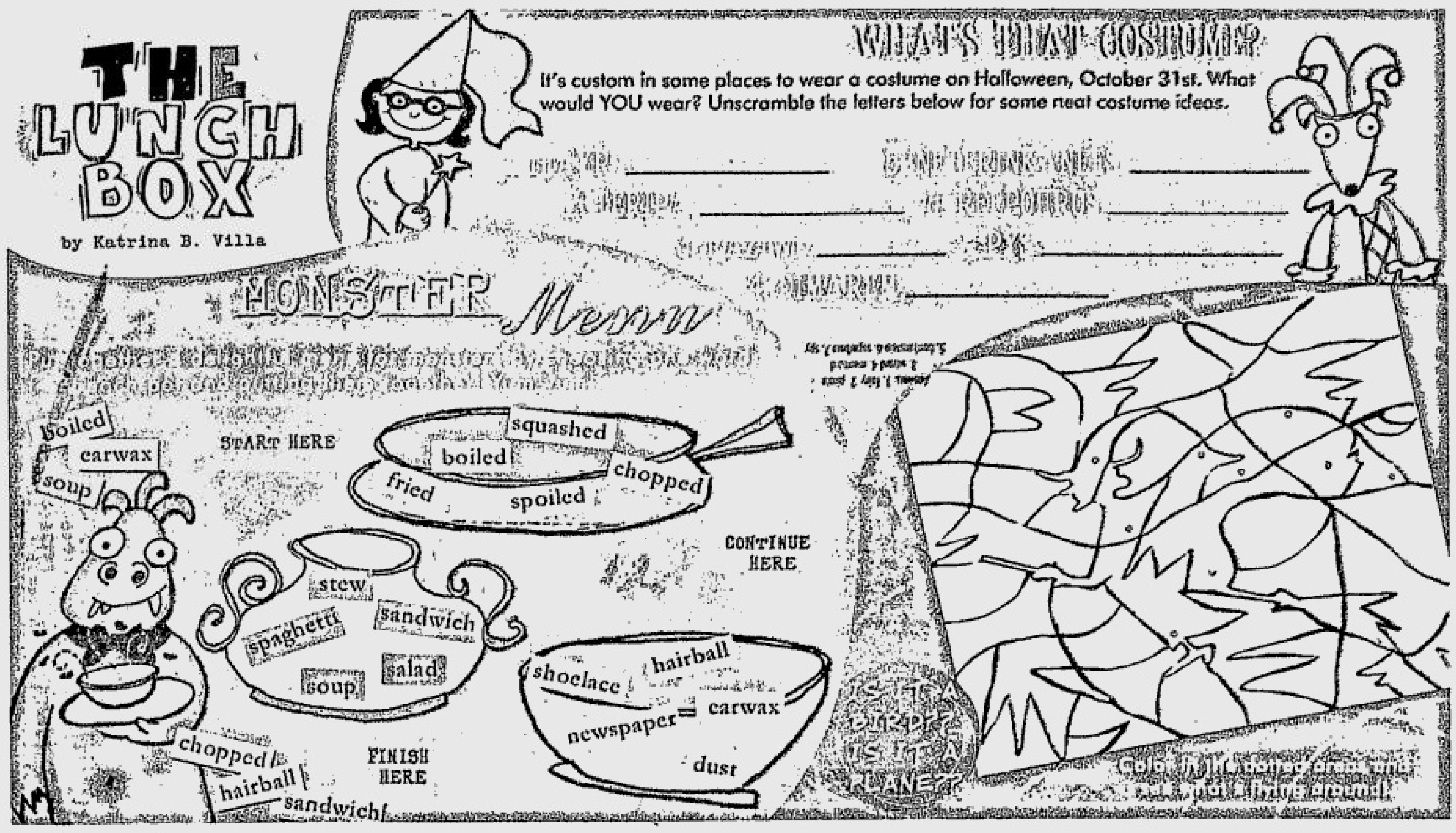
THE LUNCH BOX
by Katrina B. Villa
WHAT'S THAT COSTUME?
MONSTER Menu
boiled
carwax
soup
START HERE
squashed
boiled
chopped
fried
spoiled
CONTINUE HERE
stew
spaghetti
sandwich
salad
soup
shoelace
hairball
carwax
newspaper
dust
chopped
hairball
sandwich
FINISH HERE
IS IT A BIRD? IS IT A PLANE?

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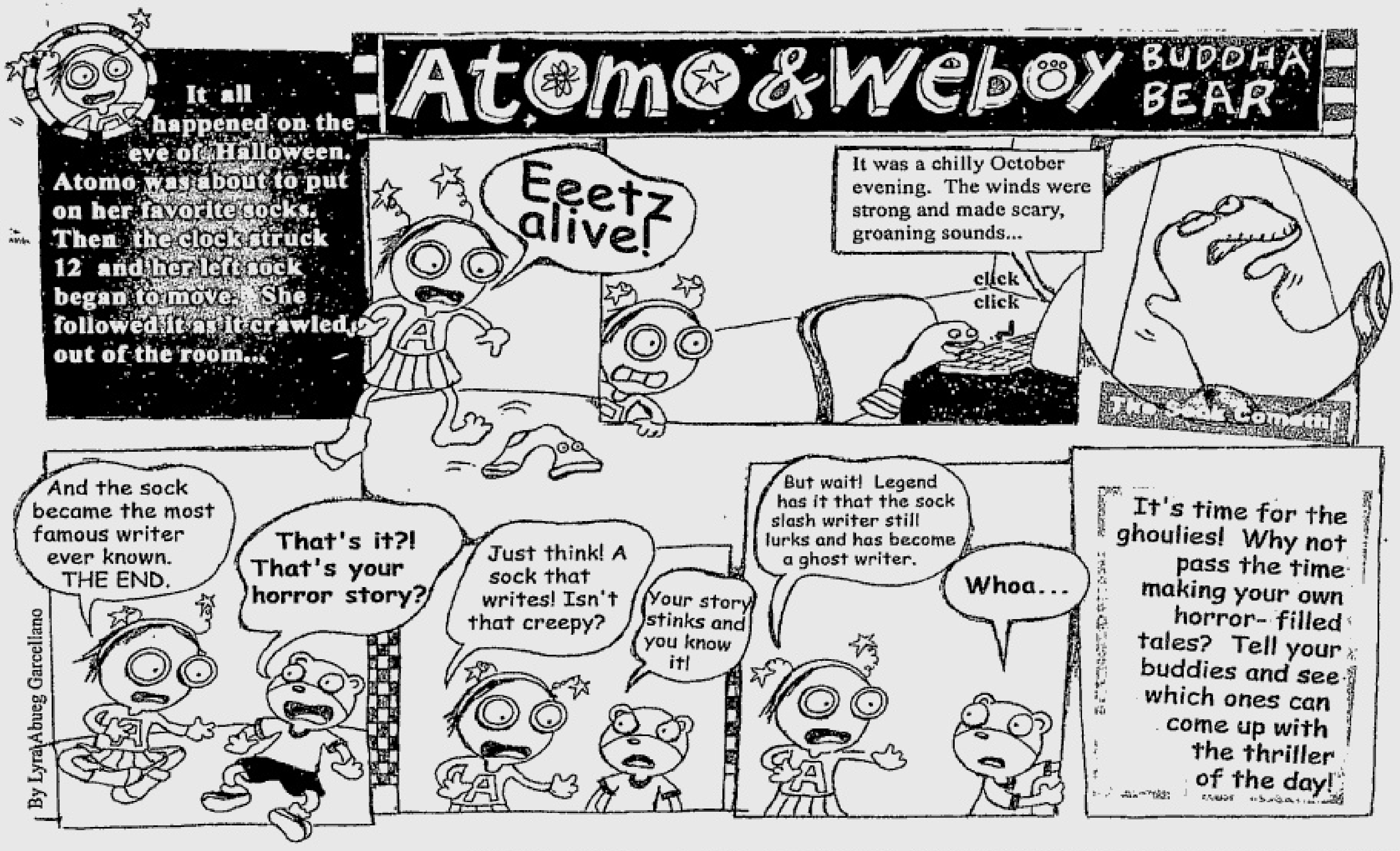
Atomo & Weboy
BUDDHA BEAR
It all happened on the eve of Halloween. Atomo was about to put on her favorite socks. Then the clock struck 12 and her left sock began to move. She followed it as it crawled out of the room...
Eeetz alive!
It was a chilly October evening. The winds were strong and made scary, groaning sounds...
click
click
And the sock became the most famous writer ever known. THE END.
That's it?! That's your horror story?
Just think! A sock that writes! Isn't that creepy?
Your story stinks and you know it!
But wait! Legend has it that the sock slash writer still lurks and has become a ghost writer.
Whoa...
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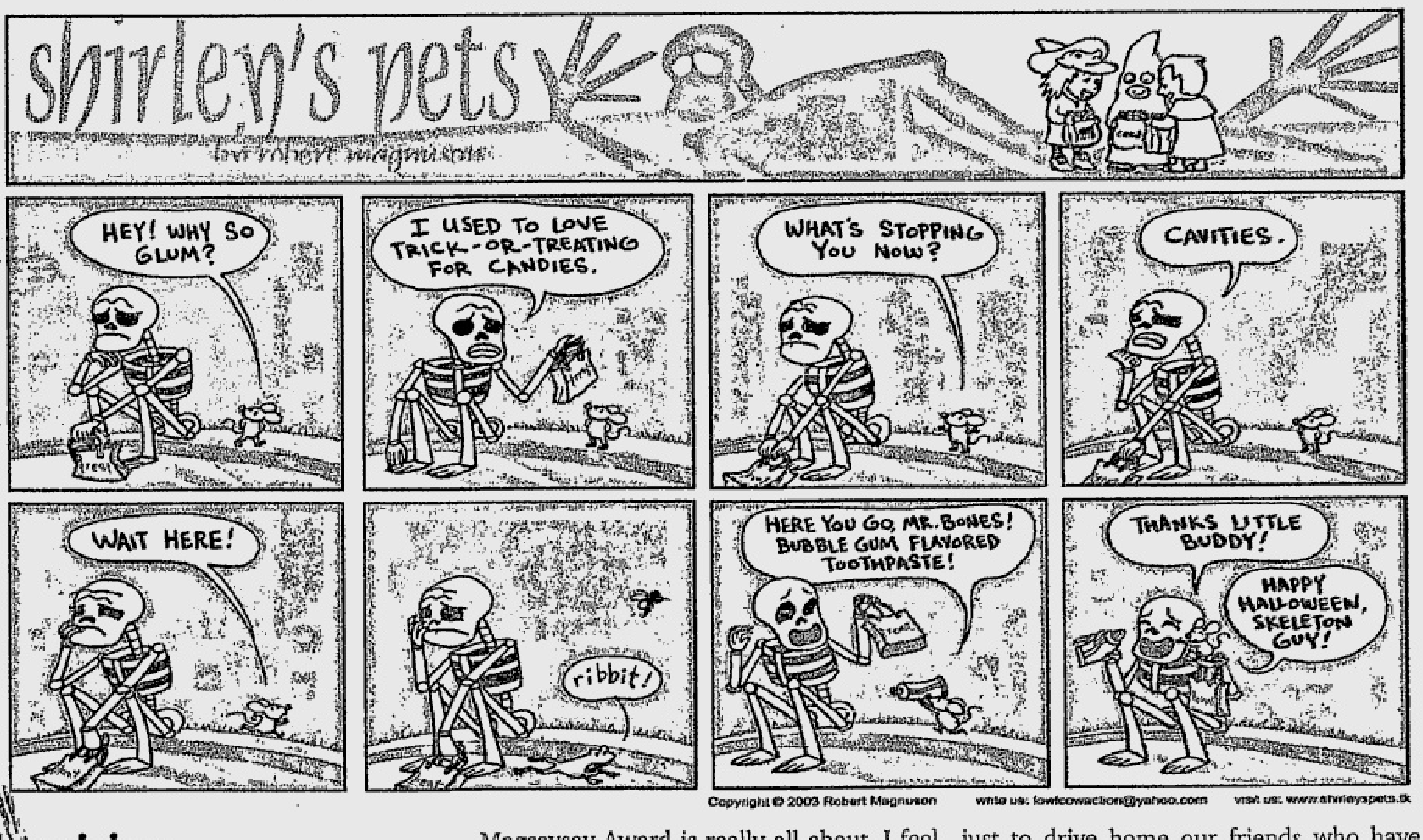
shirley's pets
by robert magnuson
HEY! WHY SO GLUM?
I USED TO LOVE TRICK-OR-TREATING FOR CANDIES.
WHAT'S STOPPING YOU NOW?
CAVITIES.
WAIT HERE!
ribbit!
HERE YOU GO, MR. BONES! BUBBLE GUM FLAVORED TOOTHPASTE!
THANKS LITTLE BUDDY!
HAPPY HALLOWEEN, SKELETON GUY!

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Inspiring...

(from page 2)

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Inspiring/ p. 8

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OUT THERE

By Tere Z. Cruz

Got something for Out There? Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax number is 897-4794, and our e-mail address is ji@inquirer.com.ph.

Contests

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by Katrina B. Villa

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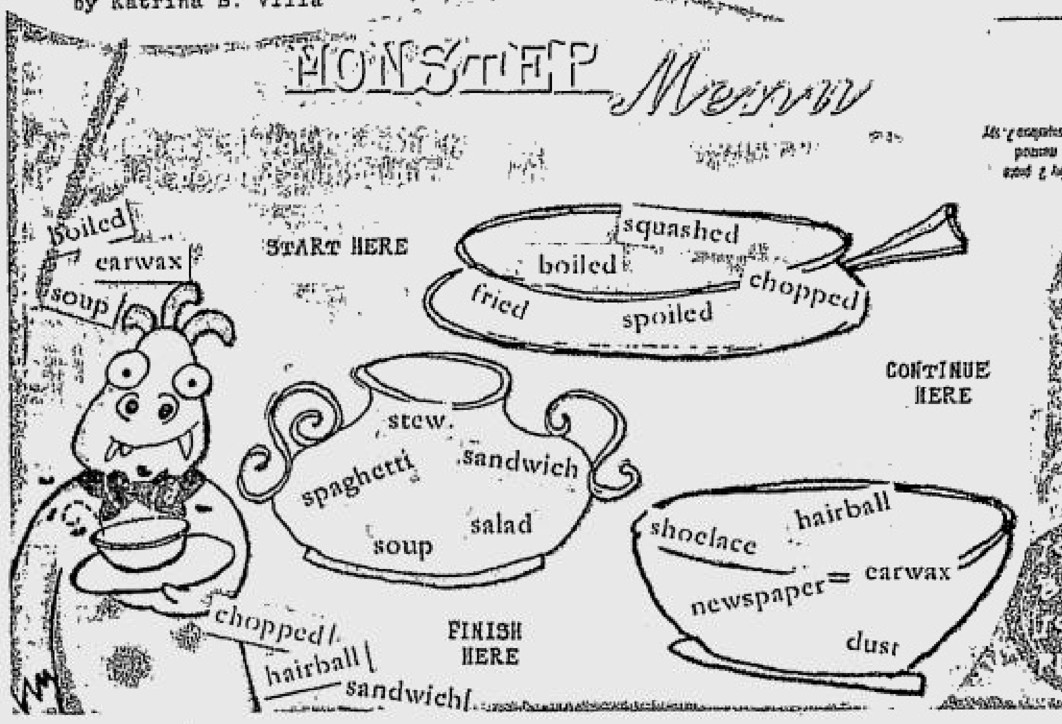
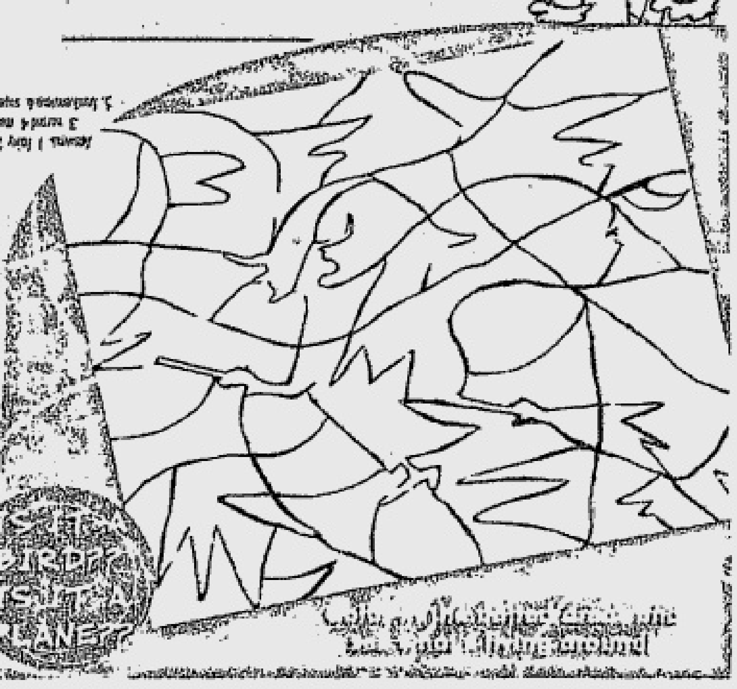

MONSTER Menu
START HERE
boiled
carwax
soup
squashed
boiled
chopped
fried
spoiled
CONTINUE HERE
stew
spaghetti
sandwich
salad
soup
shoelace
hairball
newspaper
carwax
dust
chopped
hairball
sandwich
FINISH HERE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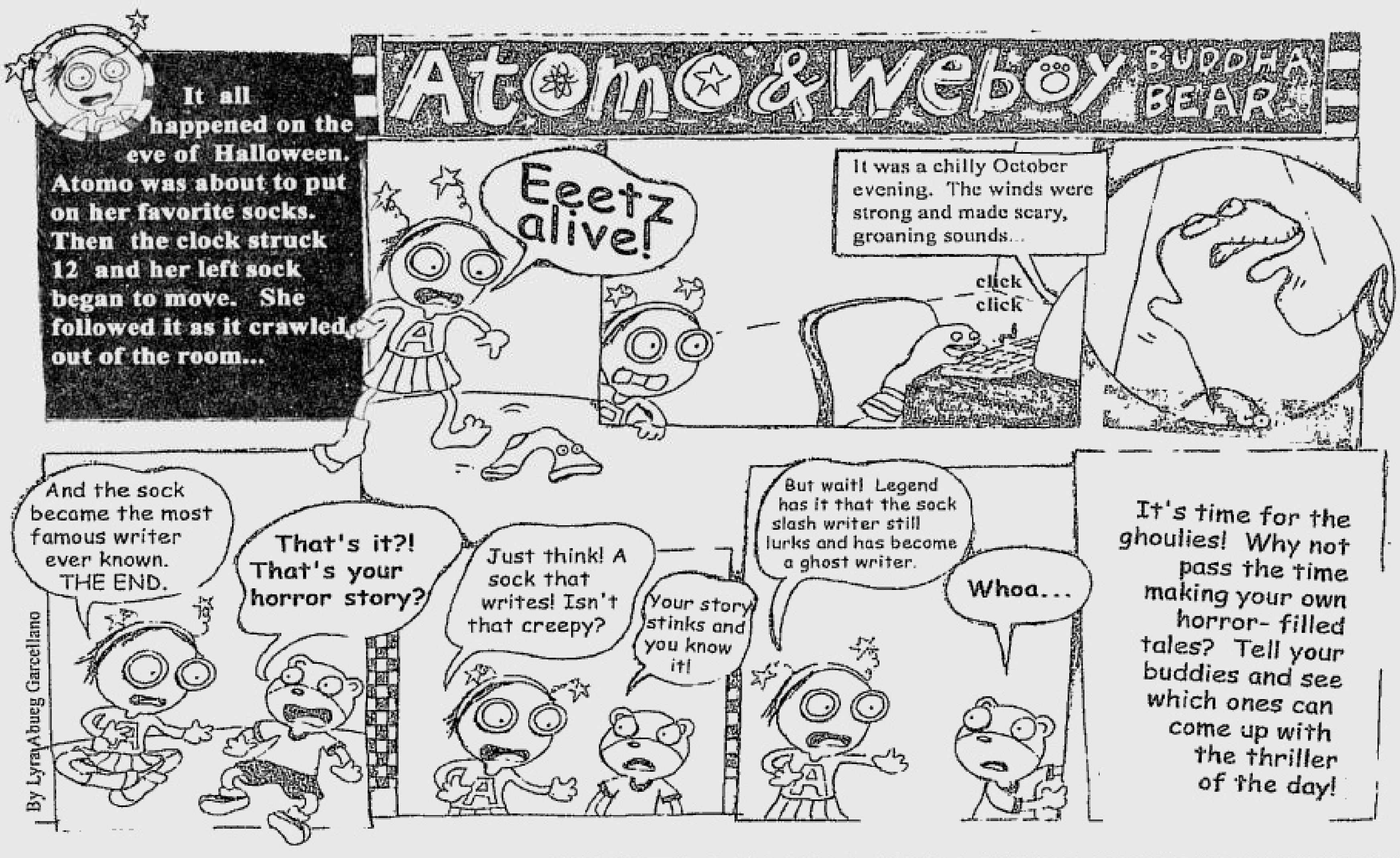
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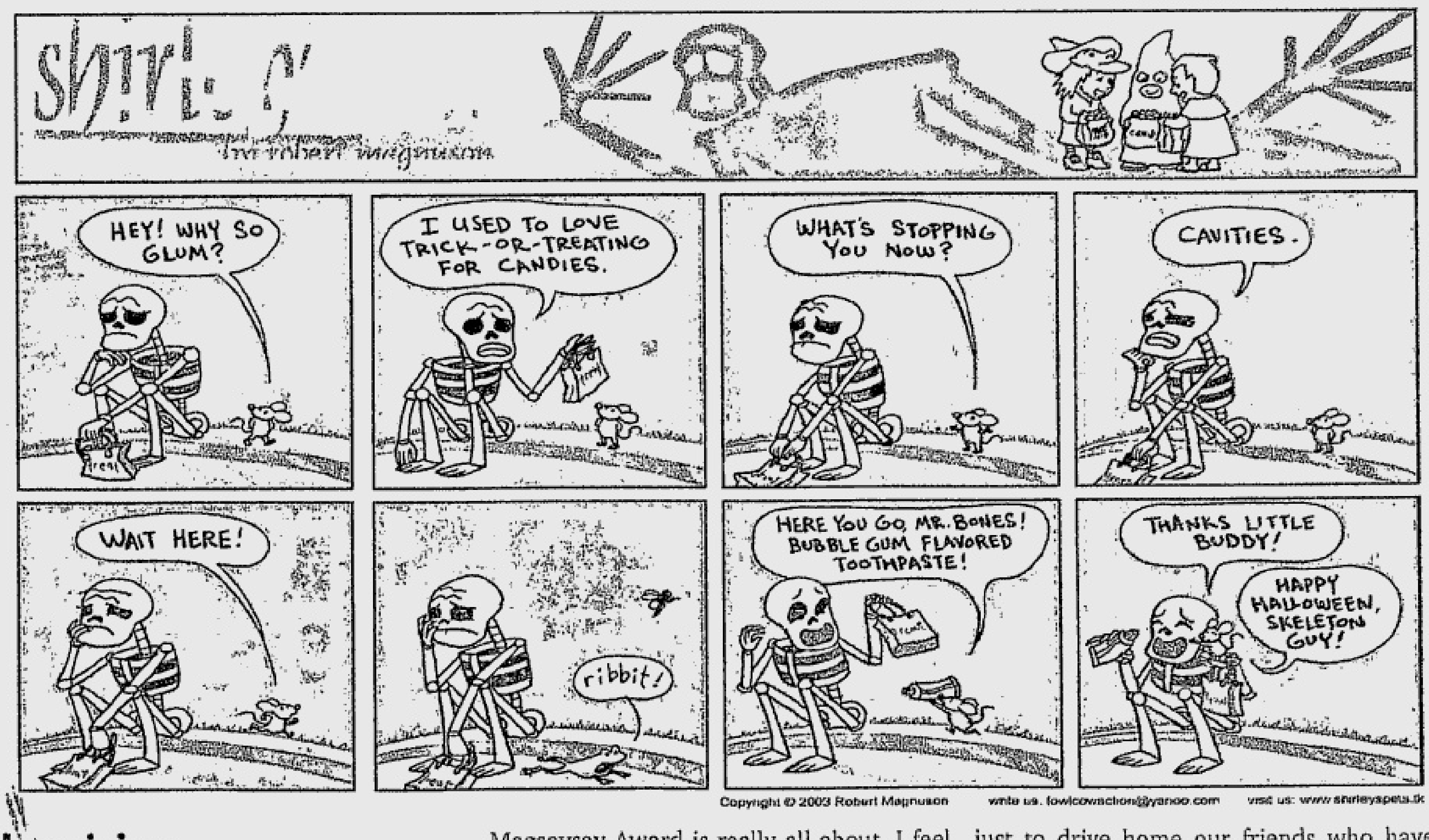
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Inspiring/ p. 8

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Inspiring...

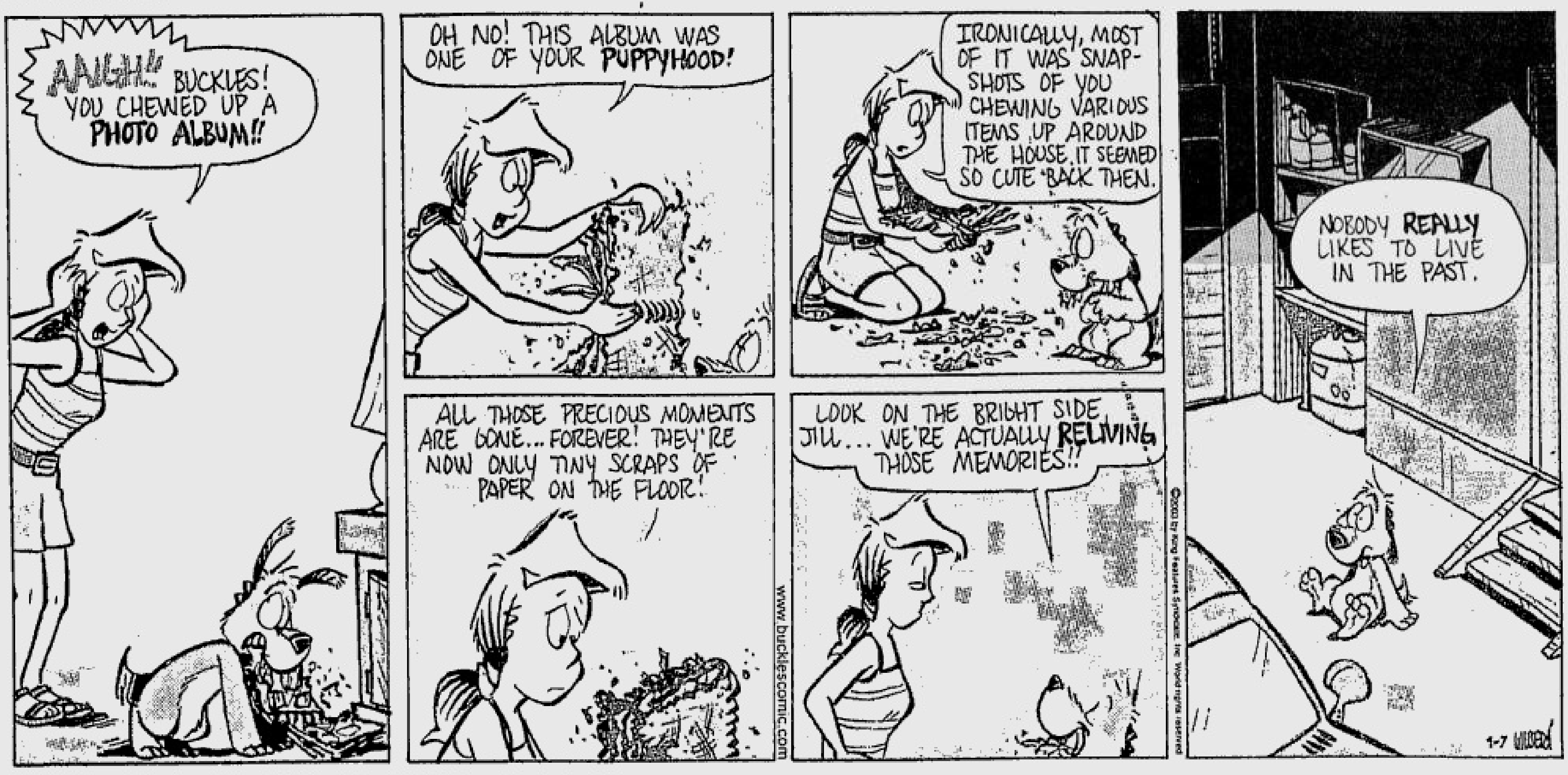
(from page 7)

make other people's burden lighter and their lives better; that greatness of spirit can be achieved not through wealth, power or popularity but on how you live your life with quiet dignity and by becoming a man for others. By his example, I am truly inspired to dare make a difference, break ground, stand up for my own convictions and serve others selflessly and with integrity in whatever state of life and whatever field I will find myself in.

Editor's Note: This essay won the 2003 Ramon Magsaysay Essay Competition

BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


AAGH!! BUCKLES! YOU CHEWED UP A PHOTO ALBUM!!
OH NO! THIS ALBUM WAS ONE OF YOUR PUPPYHOOD!
IRONICALLY, MOST OF IT WAS SNAP-SHOTS OF YOU CHEWING VARIOUS ITEMS UP AROUND THE HOUSE. IT SEEMED SO CUTE BACK THEN.
ALL THOSE PRECIOUS MOMENTS ARE GONE... FOREVER! THEY'RE NOW ONLY TINY SCRAPS OF PAPER ON THE FLOOR!
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, JILL... WE'RE ACTUALLY RELIVING THOSE MEMORIES!!
NOBODY REALLY LIKES TO LIVE IN THE PAST.
www.bucklescomic.com
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1-7 GILBERT

Art Is-Kool's

Halloween Episode...on JI

Make your own Halloween hand puppet!

By Eline Santos
Photos by Roger Carpio

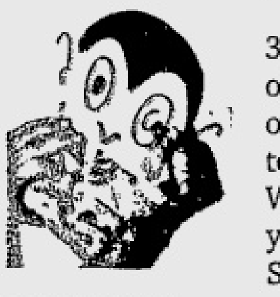
AS A Halloween treat, JI Special visited Kuya Robert Alejandro of the show Art Is-Kool. He showed us how to make Halloween puppets.

You'll need: brown paper bags, colored cartolina, scissors, a marker, a red crayon, tape and a stapler.

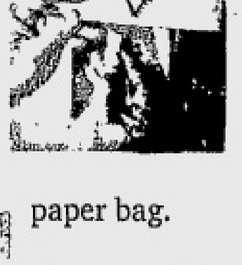
I vant to suck your blood!

1. After checking the size of the paper bag against the white cartolina, draw a shape of a head and cut it out. Tape to the bottom of the paper bag.

2. Place your puppet on the black cartolina and trace the shape of hair you want. Cut it out and tape or staple onto head.



3. To make a pair of ears, trace on one side of cartolina and fold. When you cut it, you'll get a pair! Staple on each side of head.



4. Draw in a few details: the eyes, nose, and ears.

5. Measure the brown bag on black cartolina and cut out the body. Tape on paper bag.

6. Trace and cut a semi-circle on red cartolina. This will be the mouth.

7. Next come the fangs...

8. And the arms... Remember to fold the cartolina whenever you need a pair of anything!

KUYA Robert with his 6-year-old niece, Isabel Fider. Isabel is wearing a paper plate hat fashioned by her uncle Robert.

9. Now for the finishing touches... red crayon for bloodshot eyes. Add eyebrows (unless he's Count Olaf from Lemony Snicket's "A Series of Unfortunate Events"—then you only need one brow).

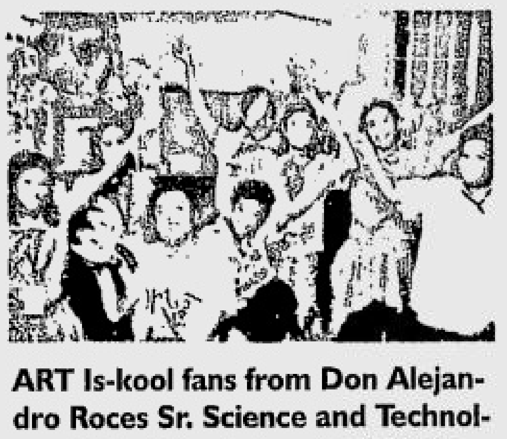
11. The last touch. Cut out a rectangle from white cartolina and draw in a tie, buttons and ruffles.

Voila! A blood-sucking paper bag vampire.

You can make any puppet you like. Make a skeleton or a manananggal. Add batwings. Be creative.

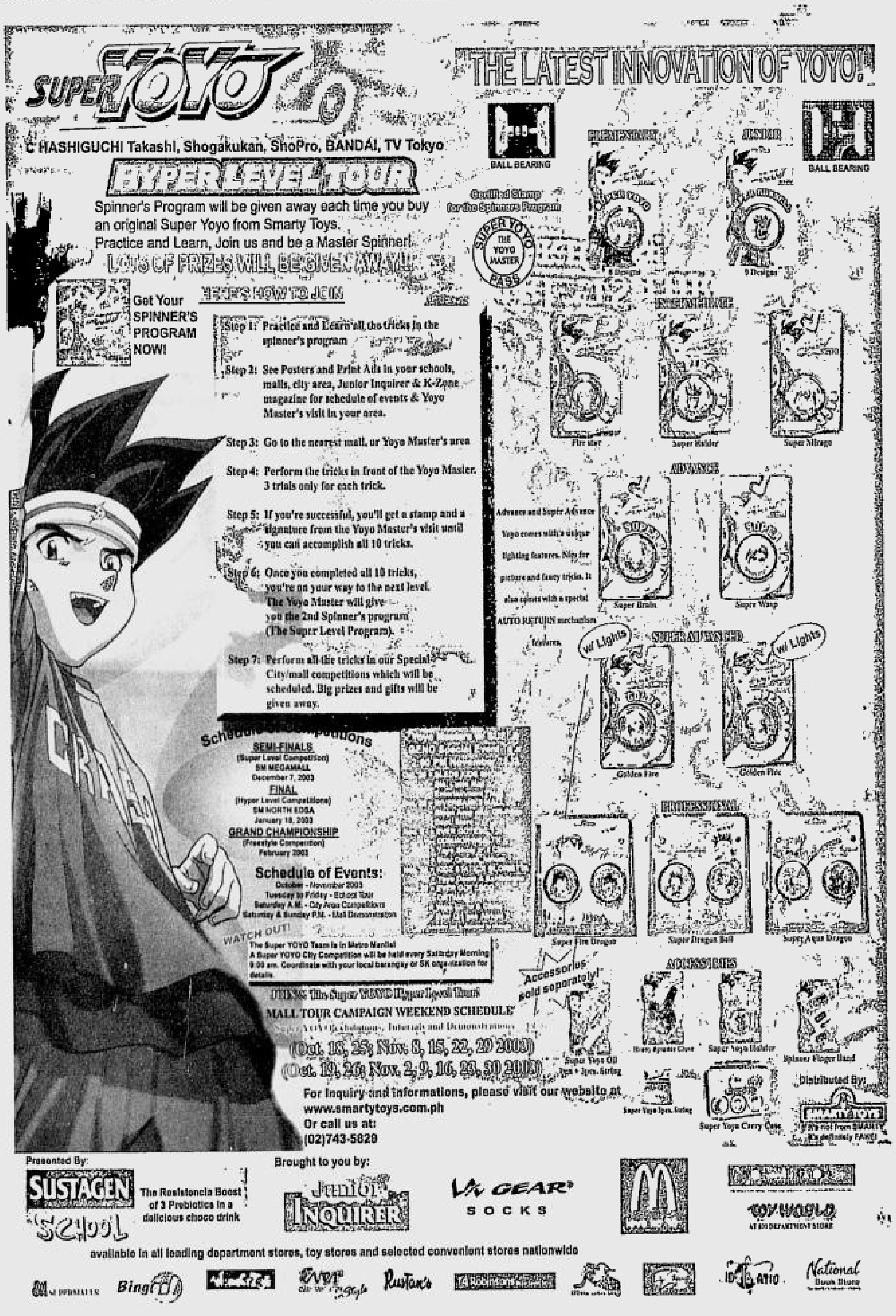
Happy haunting!

Catch Art-Is-Kool every Saturday morning at 9:30 am on GMA 7.



ART Is-kool fans from Don Alejandro Roces Sr. Science and Technology High School drop by Cafe Papemelroti to get project ideas (L to R): Deveryn Ruiz, Renaly Reoma, Marjolene Olidon (standing), Omar John Olpindo, Maricris Manalili, Donna Castro, and Peter Gabriel Versoza

Halloween
TREATS FOR KICKS!
Care for a scare on ice?
Free
every
Be in your halloween costume
SM ICE SKATING
Cut and present this Ad for a FREE one hour ice time!
Shoes and locker rentals not included • Valid for one (1) person per day
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.2861 Series of 2003


SUPER YOYO
C HASHIGUCHI Takashi, Shogakukan, ShoPro, BANDAI, TV Tokyo
HYPER LEVEL TOUR
Spinner's Program will be given away each time you buy an original Super Yoyo from Smarty Toys.
Practice and Learn, Join us and be a Master Spinner!
LOTS OF PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN AWAY!!!
Get Your SPINNER'S PROGRAM NOW!
HERE'S HOW TO JOIN
Step 1: Practice and Learn all the tricks in the spinner's program
Step 2: See Posters and Print Ads in your schools, malls, city area, Junior Inquirer & K-Zone magazine for schedule of events & Yoyo Master's visit in your area.
Step 3: Go to the nearest mall, or Yoyo Master's area
Step 4: Perform the tricks in front of the Yoyo Master. 3 trials only for each trick.
Step 5: If you're successful, you'll get a stamp and a signature from the Yoyo Master's visit until you can accomplish all 10 tricks.
Step 6: Once you completed all 10 tricks, you're on your way to the next level. The Yoyo Master will give you the 2nd Spinner's program (The Super Level Program).
Step 7: Perform all the tricks in our Special City/mall competitions which will be scheduled. Big prizes and gifts will be given away.
Schedule of Competitions
SEMI-FINALS (Super Level Competition) SM MEGAMALL December 7, 2003
FINAL (Hyper Level Competitions) SM NORTH EDSA January 18, 2003
GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP (Freestyle Competition) February 2003
Schedule of Events:
October - November 2003
Tuesday to Friday - School Tour
Saturday A.M. - City Area Competitions
Saturday & Sunday P.M. - Mall Demonstration
WATCH OUT!
The Super YOYO Team is in Metro Manila!
A Super YOYO City Competition will be held every Saturday Morning 9:00 am. Coordinate with your local barangay or SK organization for details.
MALL TOUR CAMPAIGN WEEKEND SCHEDULE
(Oct. 18, 25; Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29 2003)
(Oct. 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 2003)
For inquiry and informations, please visit our website at www.smartytoys.com.ph
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SUPER YOYO THE YOYO MASTER PASS
9 Designs
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Fire star
Super Holder
Super Mirage
ADVANCE
Advance and Super Advance Yoyo comes with a unique lighting features. Nice for picture and fancy tricks. It also comes with a special AUTO RETURN mechanism features.
Super Brain
Super Warp
w/ Lights
SUPER ADVANCED
Golden Fire
Golden Flec
PROFESSIONAL
Super Fire Dragon
Super Dragon Ball
Super Aqua Dragon
Accessories sold separately!
ACCESSORIES
Super Yoyo Oil
Heavy Spinner Glove
Super Yoyo Holder
Spinner Finger Band
Super Yoyo Spin String
Super Yoyo Carry Case
Distributed By: SMARTY TOYS
If it's not from SMARTY It's definitely FAKE!
Presented By: SUSTAGEN School The Resistencia Boost of 3 Prebiotics in a delicious choco drink
Brought to you by: Junior INQUIRER
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Bingo Rustan's National Book Store

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Drilon dares Senate plotters: Unseat me if you can

Story on PAGE A2

IN *today's issue*

- **Inside the Bush barrio fiesta** LIFESTYLE/ E2
- **Sampaguita & son rock family tree** SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE
- **'The Buzz' gets new co-host** ENTERTAINMENT/ C2

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

IN *today's issue*

- **GMA opens 5-day Palarong Pambansa** SPORTS/A25
- **RP eagle rescued** NEWS/A5
- **How to be a CEO** SUNDAY BIZ /B1
- **Job Market** SECTION K

October 26, 2003 ★★ 116 pages / 12 sections / vol. 18 / no. 320 P15

Lakas: We didn't do it

Ruling party washes hands of Davide impeachment

By Cynthia D. Balana
and Juliet Labog-Javellana

IT IS "inconceivable" that President Macapagal-Arroyo and the ruling party were involved in the impeachment case against Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., Speaker Jose de Venecia said yesterday.

In a statement seeking to debunk Sen. Joker Arroyo's statement Friday that the impeachment of Davide was a product of political expediency in aid of the President's election in 2004, De Venecia said Malacañang, the House and the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats were still "basking in the afterglow" of US President George W. Bush's visit on Oct. 18.

"It is inconceivable that [they] would attempt anything so foolish as to wipe out completely and so soon the terrific gains of the last few days," De Venecia said.

The Speaker pointed out that the second impeachment complaint against Davide did not pass through the committee system, it having mustered the support of more than the required number of votes for automatic transmittal to the Senate for trial.

He said he and Lakas, of which he and Ms Macapagal are co-chairs, had no control over the individual decisions of those who signed the complaint.

In a statement issued from New York, Lakas spokesperson Heherson Alvarez said party members who signed the complaint did so without consulting the party or its leaders.

He expressed concern that Lakas was being dragged into a controversy because of the action of a few, and said he would ask De Venecia to immediately call a party meeting to de-

LAKAS/A10

IS HE or isn't he? Action star Fernando Poe Jr.didn't say before his wildly clamorous followers who packed the Cuneta Astrodome on Saturday hoping to hear him declare his intention to run for president in 2004. Obviously a man of few words, FPJ left after 15 minutes leaving his supporters wanting more—or less.

ERNIE U.SARMIENTO

Davide to Congress: Don't be tool of destruction

CHIEF Justice Hilario Davide Jr. yesterday took the offensive and appealed to congressmen not to allow themselves to be used in "malicious" efforts to bring down the Supreme Court.

"I hope the evil plotters of the second impeachment complaint heed the voice of their conscience," Davide said in an interview conducted by Supreme Court Administrator Presbitero Velasco Jr. over the ANC news channel.

"I address this to Speaker [Jose de Venecia] and to Congressman William Fuentebella himself: Congress, especially the Lower House, should never allow itself to be an instrument of destruction of our democratic institutions. It should, as a matter of fact, be the first to preserve it. The last bulwark of democracy, the guardian of the Constitution, the guardian of the rule of law is the judiciary."

It was Fuentebella and Rep. Gilbert Teodoro, both allied with businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, who initiated the complaint.

The barong-clad Davide said the allegations that he had illegally disbursed a portion of the Judiciary Development Fund (JDF), which became the basis for the impeachment complaint against him, were "completely false."

He said the filing of the second impeachment complaint against him even before a House probe of the alleged irregular disbursements could be wrapped up "simply shows bad faith and malice on the part of the plotters of this evil scheme, and bad faith and malice demonstrated by the fact that a political party has made its campaign."

He also said:

- That some P527 million, or 20 percent of the JDF, had been distributed to

DAVIDE/A10

KAYA PALA MARAMING INTSIK NA MAY ARTHRITIS !!!

Chopsticks cause arthritis, says study

WASHINGTON—Using chopsticks may cause arthritis in the hand, US researchers reported on Friday.

A study of more than 2,500 residents of Beijing found that osteoarthritis was more common in the hands used to operate chopsticks—and in the fingers specifically stressed by chopstick use.

While the effect is not big, and not likely to discourage anyone from using chopsticks, it merits further study, the researchers told a meeting of the American College of Rheumatology in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. David Hunter of the Boston

CHOPSTICKS/A21

School makes learning lots of fun

LIGAO CITY, Albay—If only all the country's schools were like the Pandan Model of Excellence Elementary School.

Unlike many schoolchildren who would think of the most creative excuses just to get out of school, the pupils of Pandan look forward each day to going to class.

Josefa Jean Ciocon, a 5-year-old preschool pupil, says being in school is great fun.

Her classmate, Primo Daet, 5, finds the atmosphere at Pandan very friendly that he considers the school the best place next only to home.

Years ago, the school used to be made of nipa huts with leaky roofs.

Today, all its classrooms are made of concrete and are well-ventilated. Each room has a collection of children's books and encyclopedias and its walls are painted with colorful cartoon characters to stimulate the pupils' imagination. There is even a toilet in every room.

The school has an air-conditioned computer room with 14 personal computers, an audiovisual room and a library with reading materials from the United States.

The rooms for preschoolers are filled with toys that the pupils play with during their breaks.

The school also has competent and resourceful teachers who undergo training and attend seminars to improve their skills.

SCHOOL/A11

'UNCIVILIZED'

Camacho walks out of budget hearing

By Clarissa Batino

AFTER 10 hours of waiting to be called, during which they kept getting bumped off their assigned slot, finance department officials led by Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho walked out of a budget hearing in Congress late Friday.

Another finance official said the DOF's scheduled budget hearing was deferred at least five times that day. It was bumped off by smaller agencies like the Presidential Management Staff, the National Security Council and even by the Office of the Ombudsman.

A frustrated Camacho explained that he and other department officials had arrived before 10 a.m. on Friday to make sure they would be on time for the start of the hearing.

But long past 7 p.m., they still had to be called while the appropriations committee prioritized a long list of smaller agencies.

"For me to lose my patience, that is really something," said the finance secretary, who takes pride in never losing his cool.

What he could not abide was the lack of courtesy, he said.

"I have done so much waiting before so I am used to it. But those were times I knew I was not waiting in vain. Last Friday, nobody told us what was going on," he said.

"It is uncivilized. Nobody even had the courtesy to tell us why the DOF was not being called," Camacho said.

CAMACHO/A11

FPJ came, he left and said nothing

By Martin P. Marfil

HE came. He saw. He left. And he only said eight short words, none of which indicated he is a candidate for President in May.

Movie actor Fernando Poe Jr. arrived at the Cuneta Astrodome at 7 p.m. and stayed only long enough to tell wildly cheering fans that he hoped to return their devotion.

"*Sana po isang araw makakaganti ako sa inyo* (I hope someday I can repay you)," he said as fans jumped onstage with him.

After the non-declaration, Poe was presented with documents supposedly bearing the signatures of 2 million Filipinos urging him to run.

Poe's brief appearance—not even 15 minutes—was punctuated by shouts of "FPJ, FPJ."

The Filipinos for Peace, Justice and Prosperity Movement, the organizer of the event, was undeterred.

FPJPM president Boots Cadsawan said he still hoped the actor would consider running for president.

"*Hindi niya natiis ang Cuneta, yun pa kayang Pilipinas?* (He could not bear to disappoint the crowd at Cuneta, what more the country?" said Cadsawan.

Hours before, thousands of Poe's supporters and fans had filled the 12,000-capacity Cuneta Astrodome, ostensibly to celebrate the first anniversary of the FPJPM but really to wait for their idol to declare his election plans.

Poe was mobbed by the waiting media and his fans as soon as he arrived.

FPJ/ A21

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/10/26/03

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Mostly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Mostly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Mostly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Mostly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Mostly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

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Second FrontPage

Drilon: Unseat me if you can

By Michael Lim Ubac

BE MY guest.

Senate President Franklin Drilon yesterday taunted senators dissatisfied with his leadership: "If you have 13 votes, (go ahead) take over."

Speaking in Iloilo during the convention of Ugyon, the regional political party that he chairs, Drilon said he was unfazed by rumors that a group of five senators led by former speaker Manuel Villar was out to unseat him. On the contrary, he said, he was "confident of the support of the majority."

Besides, he pointed out: "If a coup is announced… nothing will happen."

It would be a case of deja vu. Drilon was dislodged in a Senate coup during the term of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

"In November 2000, just before the impeachment trial," he recalled, "I was deposed by (Estrada) forces in the Senate." This was after he broke away from the administration coalition led by Lapian ng Masang Pilipino, which was controlled by senators identified with the ex-President.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. took over and co-presided over the Estrada impeachment trial with Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr.

DRILON

Drilon resumed the post after the 2001 senatorial elections, when Congress resumed and majority of the senators supportive of the new Macapagal administration formed an alliance with independent colleagues.

With the impeachment proceedings against Davide expected to commence next week, Drilon sees some parallels.

"It's always a fact of political life in the Senate," he said, but refused to elaborate.

Drilon, whose term expires in 2007, presides over the present 22-member Senate with a majority of only two votes. The minority bloc led by Sen. Edgardo Angara has 10 members.

He said he would "immediately step down" once he no longer had the required 13 votes to stay in the post.

Asked if a leadership change in the Senate could cause more disorder in the country, he merely quoted radio commentators as saying: "At this time when the foundation of the Supreme Court is being shaken, any reorganization in the Senate will further destabilize the political situation."

Villar, who heads the so-called Wednesday Group in the Senate, has denied wanting to wrest power from Drilon.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan, one of the five group members also dismissed the rumor on behalf of the three others—Joker Arroyo, Ralph Recto and Noli de Castro.

The Wednesday Group was set to meet at 4 p.m. yesterday, Pangilinan said, not to discuss a leadership change but to decide how to handle the Davide impeachment proceedings.

Villar also belied allegations that he was wooing the minority bloc to support him as Senate president by offering De Castro to be the standard-bearer of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino in the May 2004 polls. "We're not convincing Noli," he said. "It's his call." *With Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

PRESIDENT Macapagal views the photo exhibit marking 50 years of the Federation of Free Farmers, which features her late father President Diosdado Macapagal who signed into law Republic Act 3844, the Agricultural Land Reform Code. VAL HANDUMON

GMA upbeat SC would deliver on Marcos funds

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

AMID the impeachment woes faced by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said she hoped the Supreme Court would soon render a final ruling on the P30-billion Marcos escrow account that would be favorable to the agrarian reform program.

Speaking during the 50th anniversary of the Federation of Free Farmers, the President also announced that former Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor would head the committee that would administer the coconut levy funds.

In her speech, Ms Macapagal said: "I can say that God is good to us because we've been looking for funds for agrarian reform and during my administration, after a generation of struggle in court, the Supreme Court decided on the illegal wealth case. (Now) we are just waiting for the decision on the motion for reconsideration that the Marcos family filed. And we are hoping that the (final) decision would confirm the first… so that we can finally use the P30 billion (for) land reform."

The President reiterated her appreciation for an earlier Sandiganbayan ruling that declared that businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco had illegally acquired the United Coconut Planters Bank with coco levy funds.

Cojuangco is claiming the 27 percent of shares in the food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. that UCPB holds.

While the final ruling on the coco levy funds had not been rendered, Ms Macapagal said, a preliminary compromise agreement reached with the Sandiganbayan already allowed the use of an initial P700 million for the coconut industry.

She said Montemayor would head the Coconut Industry Investment Fund committee.

"When the final decision is made," the President said, "we can imagine there will be billions… for the coconut farmers and the coconut industry so that we can modernize our agriculture."

Strictly a family affair for Erap visit to mama

By TJ Burgonio

ONLY the close relatives of ousted President Joseph Estrada will be allowed to accompany the former leader when he visits his ailing 98-year-old mother at her residence in San Juan today, police officials said yesterday.

"Only close family members will be there," said Chief Supt. Prospero Noble, director of the Police Security and Protection Office, whose unit provides close-in security for the former President wherever he goes.

In a phone interview, Noble said the Sandiganbayan, which granted Estrada's request to visit his mother, has made it clear that only members of his immediate family could join him at his mother's house.

He pointed out that everyone else, including journalists and politicians, would be barred.

"Definitely, there will be no media coverage. This was specified by the (anti-graft) court," he said, but added that journalists who wanted to interview Estrada should obtain clearance from Sandiganbayan.

Even Estrada's political allies, who often visited him at his presidential suite at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City, would be banned from the family affair, Noble said.

"They will be there to visit the former President, not the mother," he said.

In a resolution Friday, the Sandiganbayan allowed the 66-year-old Estrada to leave his detention center in a military camp in Tanay, Rizal, at 5 a.m. today to see his mother, Mary Marcelo Ejercito, at her home in North Greenhills.

The anti-graft court also permitted Estrada to undergo a medical examination at the Makati Medical Center for lower back pain, but specified that he should be back at Camp Capinpin by Monday afternoon.

The pass was issued after Dr. Larry Hocson, Estrada's nephew and family doctor, attested that the former President's mother was in a very "unstable situation," noting that she was recently confined at a hospital for heavy coughing.

Estrada would likely be transported by helicopter from Tanay to Camp Crame in Quezon City, and then moved over land to his mother's residence, Noble said.

"It would take less time, maybe about 15 minutes, if we move him by chopper. Besides, it would be less costly," he said. Camp Capinpin is a two-hour drive from San Juan.

Members of the Eastern Police District would provide security in San Juan throughout Estrada's visit, according to him.

Noble warned pro-Estrada loyalists against staging protest rallies in any area leading to Ejercito's residence, saying this would place the former President at a disadvantageous position.

"This would be counter-productive; if they do that the anti-graft court might not grant any request by Estrada to visit his family," he said.

But the police have not monitored any plan by any group to stage rallies during the visit.

Angara sees 3-sided race

DAVAO CITY—Opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara sees a three-cornered fight in the 2004 presidential race.

Angara said that former Senator and Education Secretary Raul Roco of Aksyon Demokratiko and the presidential candidates of the united opposition and the administration party are expected to slug it out in next year's elections.

This developed even as Sen. Panfilo Lacson has announced that he will run for president with or without the opposition's support.

But Angara said Lacson would still be included in the draft list of presidential candidates along with Nationalist People's Coalition founder Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco and movie actor Fernando Poe Jr.

According to Angara, Lacson will eventually support the opposition's common presidential candidate for the sake of the party or opposition unity.

"That is also for the sake of unity. I believe he would be patriotic enough," Angara told reporters at the Apo View Hotel here Friday.

Angara, who was here to speak before the 5th Mindanao Food Congress, dispelled speculations that a breakup of the united opposition loomed with the possible entry of Poe.

He stressed that leaders of the united opposition will stick to their assurance that it would be a three-sided presidential race.

He said the united opposition will select its presidential standard-bearer in the coming weeks.

"In a couple of weeks, it will be known who will pitch against Malacañang (President Macapagal)," he said.

"Those aspirants who were not chosen will support the standard-bearer," he said. *Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Military hunting JI operatives in Metro

By TJ Burgonio

THE MILITARY has deployed intelligence agents in Metro Manila to track down 30 suspected operatives of the regional terror network Jemaah Islamiyah who are believed to have slipped into the metropolis from their hideouts in Mindanao.

This developed even as combat troops intensified their hunt for the JI operatives around the country's borders with neighboring Indonesia and Malaysia.

Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero, military chief information officer, said the military was not ruling out the possibility that JI operatives, including bomb instructors, could have slipped into the metropolis from their base in Central Mindanao.

"We cannot discount the possibility that they might go to Metro Manila like we experienced before. Al-Ghozi was the perpetrator of the Rizal Day bombing; so it's not far-fetched," he told reporters.

Lucero said that JI operatives could slip into Manila through the international airports, but was quick to add that so far the military have not received "significant information" about their presence here.

"We are in constant contact with our police counterparts regarding JI members in Metro Manila," he added.

JI bombmaker Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, who admitted masterminding the Rizal Day bombings of the Light Rail Transit in December 2000 that killed 22 persons, was slain in an alleged shootout with the authorities in North Cotabato on Oct. 12.

The military was banking on the fresh revelations by Taufek Refke, JI's alleged finance officer in the country, who was nabbed in Cotabato City on Oct. 2, to find his cohorts in Central Mindanao, Lucero said.

"We were informed that he has been giving useful information about their operations and the whereabouts of his companions. Hopefully, these can lead us to the arrest of the other JI members who are still in the country," he said.

The police and military subsequently raided a suspected JI safe house in Cotabato City but failed to arrest any of the occupants.

Meanwhile, Army troops continued to scour the country's porous borders with Indonesia and Malaysia in Mindanao to foil the escape of the 30 suspected JI operatives, including nine bomb instructors.

But the military admitted that this was not enough, citing its lack of air and naval assets.

So far, both the military and police have neither established the identities nor obtained photos of the JI operatives apart from Rifqi or Jul Kipli, JI's alleged top man in the country, who has reportedly gone back to Indonesia.

"We don't have their names, except for some. These would be eventually released for public consumption," Lucero said.

Norway seeks removal of NPA from terror list

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—Norway is supporting the bid of Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Ma. Sison for Europe and the US to drop the New People's Army, the CPP's armed wing, from their lists of foreign terrorist organizations.

"Norway had been assisting Sison draft the demands for the de-listing of the NPA from (the US' and Europe's) rolls of foreign terrorists," Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita said yesterday.

Ermita said there is a "great probability" that the National Democratic Front of the Philippines, the CPP's political arm, would go back to the negotiating tables, now that Norway has taken the role of a "third party" conciliator.

He also said that Norway might seek a cessation of hostilities between the government and the NPA.

Ermita, the government's former chief peace negotiator with communist rebels, said Norway successfully broke the ice between the two parties in back channel talks between former Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello III, the government's negotiator, and Sison on Oct. 9 and 10.

But Ermita said the discussions in Norway remain "fluid, and back channel negotiators have not provided the government a time frame for future peace talks.

The Norwegian government hosted the last round of peace talks between the government and the NDF in 2001.

Ermita said the Philippines is certain it would not need to formally declare the NPA as an official terrorist group.

Ermita said the military during the administration of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos had already labeled the NPA as "communist terrorists," and the tag had remained until today. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Ermita: No more threats, but RP fragile

Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita yesterday said that there were no more threats to democracy, but admitted that the country was still suffering "a sense of fragility."

Addressing cadets of the Philippine Military Academy, Ermita, however, stressed that these tensions should not override the fact that there are "no real threats to democracy."

Ermita was guest speaker during PMA's 104th Foundation Day rites here on Saturday.

He told PMA cadets that the relative peace in the country has reinforced his bid to introduce "the peace process to the mainstream of defense doctrines."

Ermita, the government's former chief peace negotiator, said the military should take advantage of the substantial freedom in the country to recruit "leadership that responds to change.

He added that the military should be ready to "embrace change" and should be willing "to learn to work collectively."

According to Ermita, Ms Macapagal presented these parameters "for transformational leadership in the military" when she briefly assumed the defense post.

Ermita later told reporters that his point had been justified by the relative inactivity of the New People's Army and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

He said few rebel movements in the provinces allowed the government to respond actively to the JI presence in Mindanao.

According to Ermita, the Indonesian and Malaysian governments are helping the country neutralize the JI presence in some parts of Mindanao.

"You know why they (JI) are here? Because the JI wants to take advantage of the MILF, but the MILF is (not biting). The MILF does not want to risk being tagged as a foreign terrorist organization," he told the INQUIRER.

The support of Indonesia and Malaysia is crucial to stop the JI's agenda of setting up a pan-Islamic state in Southeast Asia, Ermita said.

Although no joint military defense agreement is forthcoming among the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia, their respective governments have mapped out strategic intelligence coordination plans and a trilateral quick-response policy to the JI's presence, he said.

Ermita told reporters that slain Indonesian terrorist Fathur Roman al-Ghozi supplied the military enough information to pinpoint JI presence in Central Mindanao.

For the last six months, he said, joint intelligence operatives from the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia evaluated Al-Ghozi's information, which enabled the Philippine military determine the fugitive's whereabouts in Central Mindanao.

Al-Ghozi supplied the combined intelligence operation names of the JI members now scattered in Central Mindanao before his controversial escape from a Camp Crame detention cell in July, Ermita said.

He said Thailand is the latest addition to this growing, but informal Asian security group.

Ms Macapagal, he said, lobbied for a security pact among the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) to combat global terrorism.

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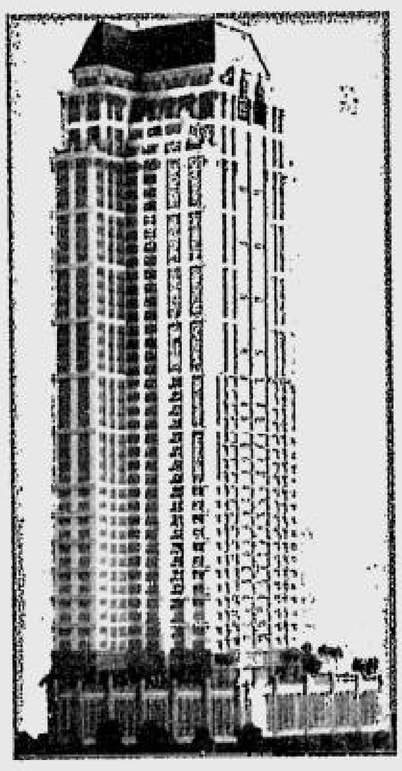

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RP defends rights record

BAGUIO CITY—The Philippines' human rights record has improved after the 1986 ouster of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, the government told the United Nations amid concerns raised by an Asian human rights watchdog over summary killings and torture of captives.

"Legislative, executive and judicial measures put in place after the martial law regime (of Marcos) show the Philippine government's commitment to strengthen, protect and promote human rights," Justice Undersecretary Merceditas Gutierrez told the UN human rights committee.

The committee is reviewing the human rights records of 150 countries, including the Philippines, which are parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

At the same meeting, the New Delhi-based Asian Center for Human Rights (ACHR) raised concerns over reports of torture and summary killings of activists and suspected rebels in the Philippines.

Citing documentation by the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, the ACHR blamed the torture and killings to soldiers and military-backed vigilante groups.

At least 49 people have been tortured since President Macapagal-Arroyo assumed power in 2001, it said.

Gutierrez declined to comment on the ACHR figures, but stressed that torture and summary killings are not part of government policy.

Noting the attacks and criticism of human rights groups, Gutierrez hailed the continued vigilance of these groups.

"Only through the continued vigilance and cooperation of these groups, (plus) the continued operation of a free and responsible press, that civil and political rights in the country would be fully realized," she said.

Abdelfattah Amor, UN human rights committee chair, thanked the Philippine delegation for responding to the concerns, but sought more concrete information on the daily human rights situation in the country.

The Philippine delegation, for example, has yet to satisfy the committee's questions on extra-judicial killings, impunity of human rights violators, number of vigilante groups and their relation with the police and the military, and how the international covenant is being applied.

Gutierrez's group also has yet to fully clarify questions on the use of the rule of presumption of innocence, the practice of torture and maltreatment during police investigations, and crimes committed by the military and police.

Experts said they were alarmed by reports of children being jailed with adults and the situation of children on death row.

While they hailed the Philippines' Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act, the committee experts, among them the ACHR, also scored the government for not fully supporting the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples with adequate funding.

The ACHR also specifically recommended that the IPRA should prevail over the Mining Act of 1995, which, it noted, was causing conflict in indigenous communities. *Maurice Malanes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Concessionaires dare Fraport to sue gov't execs

By Michelle V. Remo

LOCAL airport concessionaires have challenged Fraport AG to file corruption charges against top officials of the Macapagal administration if it is true that they tried to extort "several tens of millions of US dollars" from the German firm.

German airport operator Fraport AG earlier accused President Macapagal-Arroyo's private counsel F. Arthur Villaraza of demanding money from the company in order to facilitate the ouster of its Filipino partner from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 project so that groups favored by Malacañang could enter instead.

Fraport also implicated Gloria Tan-Climaco, former presidential adviser for strategic projects, and the President's chief legal counsel Avelino "Nonong" Cruz in the ouster plot.

MIA-Naia Association of Service Operators (Maso) claimed that Fraport AG's accusation against the present administration of extortion was merely a ploy to deviate public attention from the corruption it committed together with the previous government.

"If Fraport and Piatco are talking about corruption, they should file a case before the Ombudsman against these people whom they believe are guilty of corruption. Let us not subject all of these things on a political forum," said Perfecto Yasay Jr., chair and spokesperson of Maso.

Yasay stressed that corruption "started from the very beginning" when then Manila International Airport Authority assistant general manager Pantaleon Alvarez assured Jeffrey Cheng and his group of bagging the contract to operate Naia Terminal 3 for a price.

He also said the construction of Naia Terminal 3 cost the government at least three times its real value due to corruption involving Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc. members Fraport AG and the Cheng group, and Alvarez.

Maso recently appealed its case of corruption and plunder case against Alvarez and Piatco with the Supreme Court after the Ombudsman dismissed the case due to technicality.

Maso earlier filed a P76-million plunder case against Alvarez and Piatco for allegedly overpricing the terminal's construction.

'Grand Old Man' of Pangasinan dies

LINGAYEN—Former Gov. Aguedo Agbayani, known as the "Grand Old Man" of Pangasinan politics, died Thursday after a lingering illness. He was 83.

Agbayani was governor of Pangasinan in 1972-86 and again in 1992-95. He was the representative of the province's first district before he became governor.

It was during his first term as governor that Agbayani streamlined the provincial bureaucracy to be attuned to Pangasinan's development programs.

Agbayani also adopted the program "The Possible Dream," aimed at eradicating poverty in the province through planned development.

He pursued agriculture programs and succeeded in increasing local farmers' harvest to 15 million cavans.

Long before organic farming and sustainable agriculture programs were in vogue, Agbayani was pursuing an organic farming program in the province.

His constituents also described Agbayani as a "listening governor." He set aside a "caller's day" every Friday when hundreds of Pangasinenses trooped to Urduja House, the governor's official residence here, to seek his help.

Agbayani's remains lie in state at the Sta. Maria de la Strada parish church in La Vista, Quezon City. His body will be brought to the Pangasinan provincial capitol on Oct. 28 where necrological services will be held.

Interment is on Oct. 30 at the Himlayang Pilipino in Quezon City. *Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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POLITICAL LAW (ELECTORAL LAW)— Vote-buying—One of the effective ways of preventing the commission of vote-buying and of prosecuting those committing it is the grant of immunity from criminal liability in favor of the party whose vote was bought. This grant of immunity will encourage the recipient or acceptor to come into the open and denounce the culprit-candidate, and will ensure the successful prosecution of the criminal case against the latter. Congress saw the wisdom of this proposition, and so Section 28 of R.A. No. 6646 on Prosecution of Vote-Buying and Vote-Selling concludes with this paragraph: The giver, offeror, the promisor as well as the solicitor, acceptor, recipient and conspirator referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Section 261 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 shall be liable as principals: Provided, That any person, otherwise guilty under said paragraphs who voluntarily gives information and willingly testifies on any violation thereof in any official investigation or proceeding shall be exempt from prosecution and punishment for the offenses with reference to which his information and testimony were given: Provided, further, That nothing herein shall exempt such person from criminal prosecution for perjury or false testimony. [Citations omitted.] [En Banc, Chief Justice Davide, Jr., Commission on Elections vs Tagle, G. R. Nos. 148948 & 148951-60, February 17, 2003]

BY R. B. VERA

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, October 26, 2003
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jer 31:7-9

For Yahweh says this: Shout with joy for Jacob;
rejoice for the greatest of nations.
Proclaim your praise and say:
"Yahweh has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!"

Look, I will bring them back from the land of the north, gather them from the ends of the earth, the lame and the blind, mothers and women in labor—a great throng will return.

They went away weeping,
they will return in joy.
I will lead them by the streams of water, on a level path so that no one will stumble,
for I am Israel's father
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

2nd Reading: Heb 5:1-6

Every High Priest is taken from among mortals and appointed to be their representative before God to offer gifts and sacrifices for sin. He is able to understand the ignorant and erring for he himself is subject to weakness. This is why he is bound to offer sacrifices for his sins as well as for the sins of the people. Besides, one does not presume to take this dignity, but takes it only when called by God, as Aaron was.

Nor did Christ become High Priest in taking upon himself this dignity, but it was given to him by the One who says: You are my son, I have begotten you today. And in another place: You are a priest forever in the priestly order of Melchizedek.

Gospel: Mk 10:46-52

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar, Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth passing by, he began to call out, "Son of David, Jesus, have mercy on me!" Many people scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he shouted all the louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man saying, "Take heart. Get up, he is calling you." He immediately threw aside his cloak, jumped up and went to Jesus.

Then Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said, "Master, let me see again!" And Jesus said to him, "Go your way, your faith has made you well." And immediately he could see, and he followed Jesus along the road.

Commentary

"Master, let me see again!" Experienced doctors say that, when a patient has a strong will to live, he is already half-cured. If, on top of that, he has faith in his doctor's competence and is ready to obey him in everything, then the chances of recovery are very much increased. Bartimaeus has an overwhelming desire to be healed, and furthermore, his faith in Jesus is total. This is enough to heal him. Likewise, in spiritual life, a strong desire to follow Jesus all the way and a great faith in him can cure us of our blindness (arrogance, self-centeredness, sensuality, sloth). Such a desire and such a faith are obtained in prayer. (Guillmette, A Kingdom for All, p. 88)

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Rare Philippine eagle gets second chance

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—"Maligaya" is alive, thanks to Rescue 22, a motley group from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, local government officials, media and environmentalist groups.

And if set free again once she's well enough to fly, "she will surely be happy, as her name should guarantee."

A rare Philippine eagle (*Pithecophaga Jefferyi*), Maligaya was named after the remote village in the Sierra Madre mountains where she was captured more than two weeks ago in a trap laid out for a wild boar.

Friday morning, her liberators found the bird tied up, slightly dehydrated, and bundled in a jute sack carried by a young man in Gen. Nakar town.

Maligaya had a "superficial" wound on the right wing. Otherwise she was "fine," according to Stephen Toledo, a veterinarian from the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) rescue center. "Obviously she was well-fed," Toledo said.

The Philippine Eagle, a critically endangered species, is one of the largest and most powerful eagles in the world. At the time of her rescue, Maligaya weighed five to six kilos. Her wingspan could not be measured because of the wound.

Tanggol Kalikasan, a regional environmentalist group, presented to the media yesterday a video recording of the dramatic rescue which involved a total of 22 persons.

Federico Ocampo, community environment and natural resource officer based in Real, Quezon, recounted that his office received information on the captive eagle two weeks ago, but that bad weather had prevented immediate action.

Travel by sea would have been quicker, but the waters were so rough even after the rains had let up, that the team headed by Nakar Mayor Leovigildo Rozul had to proceed by land. A grader led the dump truck that carried the group. After almost three hours of rugged roads and at least five river crossings, the rescuers ran into the man with the sack.

Toledo and Glenn Bueser, a seasoned eagle liberator from Conservation International, immediately pulled the bird out of the sack, untied her, and administered first-aid.

Given the condition they found her in, the eagle would not have made it to the town proper, Toledo said. He covered the bird's eyes with a hood to relieve her tension.

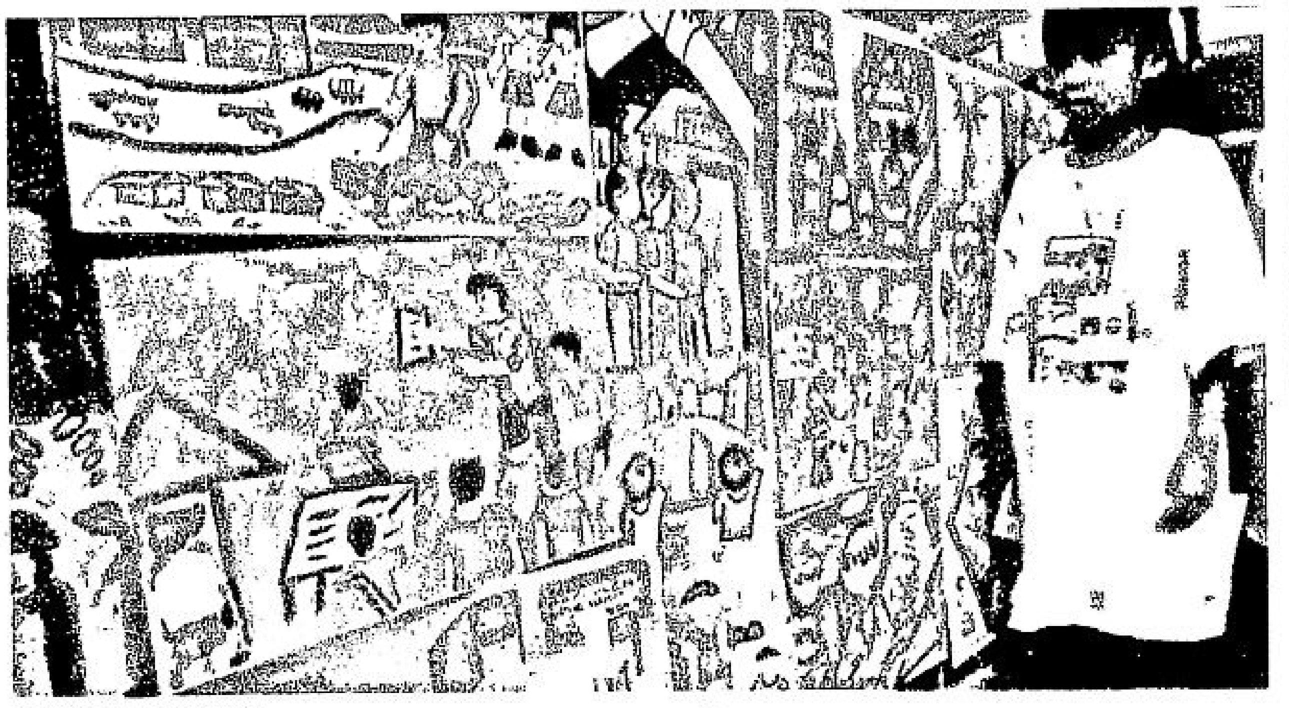
To prevent their precious ward's further dehydration, Rozul radioed his office and ordered that an air-conditioned vehicle be immediately dispatched to meet the group.

The man with the sack said he had been dispatched by Nakar Vice Mayor Bobby Portillo to negotiate with the captor. He said the bird was turned over to him after he paid P4,000 "for board and lodging."

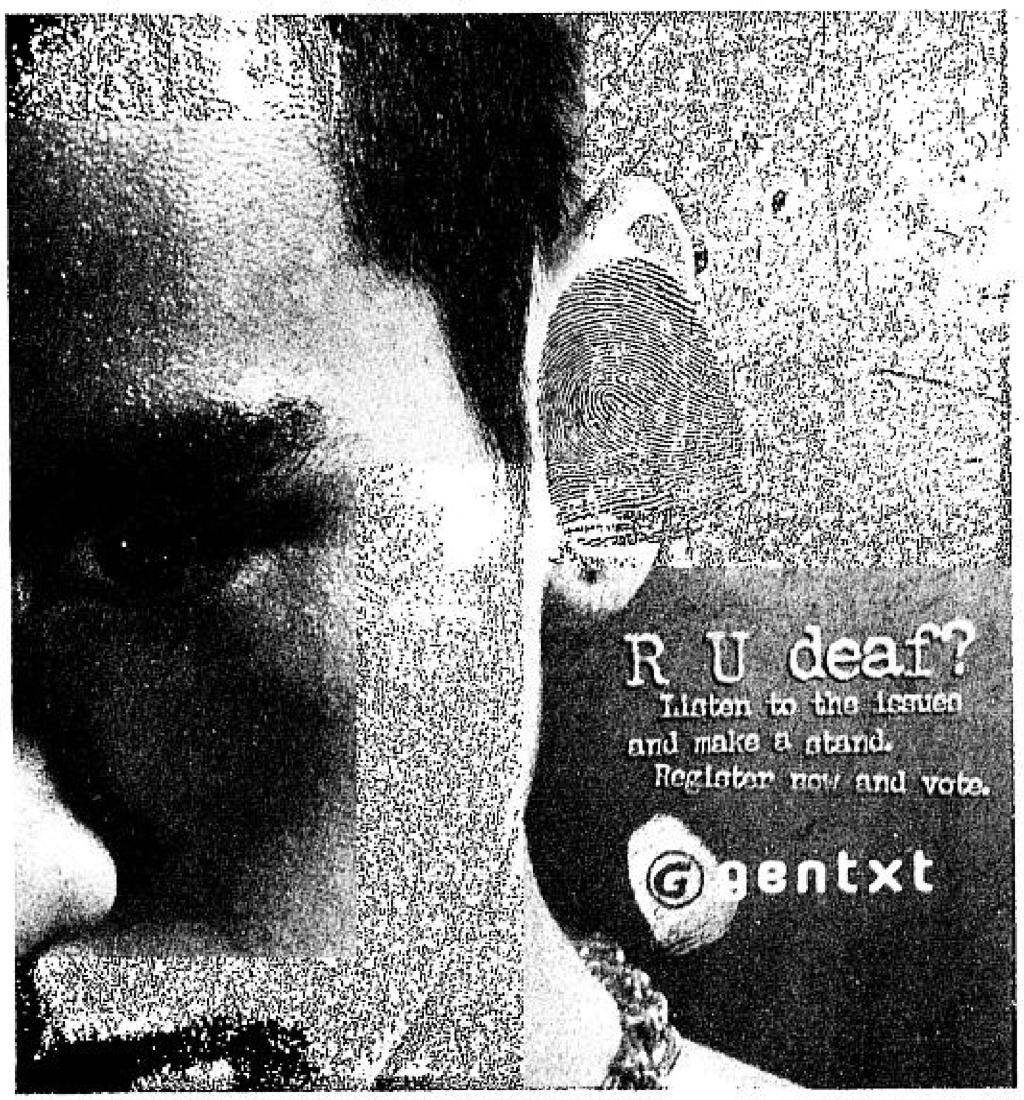
"We were told that the captor did not know it was against the law to keep endangered wildlife (in captivity)," lawyer Asis Perez, Tanggol Kalikasan director, said.

Maligaya stayed in the Nakar mayor's office as some members of the rescue team prepared to transport her to the PAWB in Quezon City. They left that same afternoon.

Toledo said the eagle would undergo a series of tests to fully determine the state of her health. Rozul requested that Maligaya be brought back to the wilderness once she was fully recovered.



HAVING A VISION
Budding artists display their masterpieces after the on-the-spot painting contest sponsored by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. yesterday at Robinson's Place in Fairview, Quezon City. The contest sought to "encourage the young to express their visions and thoughts about the country." RUDY ESPERAS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Reworked deal boosts Duty Free

DUTY Free Philippines is set to implement its new agreement with Colombo Management Hong Kong Ltd.(CMH) for a liquor supply contract, a move that is expected to increase DFP's profitability and enable it to fund tourism development and promotions.

Duty Free General Manager Michael Kho explained that the implementation of the agreement forged by his predecessor, Faustino Salud, in December 2000 was deferred so the DFP could negotiate better terms with CMH.

Kho said the agreement guarantees DFP an income of at least P270 million and will free the company of capital requirements.

He said further negotiations with CMH were pursued to improve the returns of the agreement for the government.

Among these terms, Kho said, were additional rental commitments from CMH by at least P35 million annually and a commitment from the company to absorb any DFP employee who may wish to join the foreign firm's liquor operations.

"It was done mainly to ensure job security for DFP employees and to provide them with first crack at other opportunities within the DFP environment," Kho said.

Kho said DFP has managed to turn a profit the last two years despite the drop in travel due to the Iraq war, the SARS outbreak and the threats of terrorism.

Kho said this was the first time since 1996 that DFP showed a profit after consistent losses from 1997 to 2000, during which DFP lost close to P2 billion.

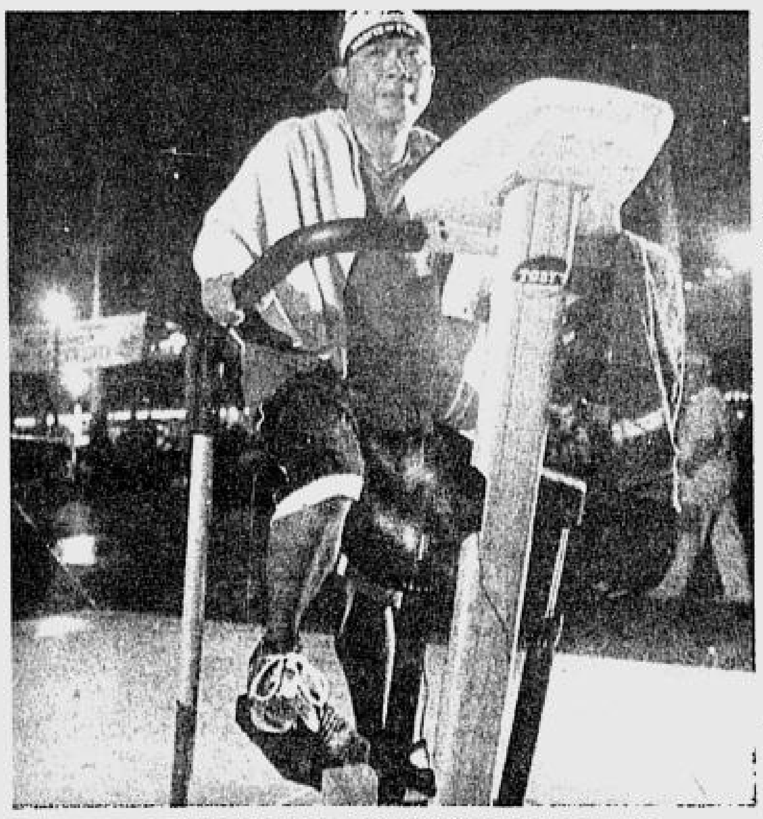
This year, he said, even with the impact of all these circumstances, DFP is projecting to end in the black.

Kho also assured the DFP work force that management was continuing to work on ways to guarantee the company's profitability despite the difficult conditions that continue to affect sales.

"It is only by guaranteeing profitability that we will be able to fulfill our mandate to fund tourism development and promotions and increase the salaries and benefits of all employees," he said.

Kho also denied speculation that employees would be retrenched as a result of the agreement.

"There is no such action being planned by management nor is there any justification for management to institute retrenchment or lay off employees," Kho said.



MASTER OF PAIN OVERCOMES STAIRMASTER
Jess Caigoy huffs away for pride, for 12 hours, which he hopes will get him in the Guinness Book of World Records. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Master of Pain 'climbs' for country, Guinness

By Volt Contreras

THE "FREAK show" guru whom local and cable TV shows have applauded for his incredible feats of physical endurance is doing it all not just for pay and his 15 minutes of fame.

Jess Caigoy, the man a noontime variety show dubbed the "Master of Pain," said pride in his performance and in being Filipino are what drive him.

"This is for our country. Some people wonder why I'm doing this because all I'll get is a certificate. But for me this can get us international recognition," said Caigoy in Filipino minutes after completing his latest stunt.

Last Wednesday, Caigoy donned the national colors on his head and attempted to earn a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records by using his legs, and his heart.

The former office clerk worked the pedals of a "stepper"—an exercise machine that simulates climbing up stairs—for 12 hours nonstop from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The stunt, which was video-taped by the GMA 7 public service program "Wish Ko Lang," drew fans to the Rajah Sulayman Plaza in front of the Malate Church in Manila.

Witnesses from the Philippine Sports Commission and the Manila city government were on hand to sign the data sheets which will be forwarded to Guinness headquarters in London for evaluation.

The stepper record was only the latest of Caigoy's long list of stunts that have landed him in "Ripley's Believe It or Not" and the AXN Action channel.

Since his obsession with extreme stunts began in 1994, Caigoy has pulled vehicles using hooks pierced through his skin, had knives "dropped on my abdomen," and other blood-inducing acts.

For last week's attempt, Caigoy first contacted Guinness on the Internet proposing a number of stunts, among them, "walking on the blades of 100 bolos," bending thick steel bars with his bare hands, and ramming a metal tube down his throat.

Guinness wrote him back on Sept. 16, telling him he could do the stepper stunt and spelling out the mechanics for its performance and documentation.

By the time he got off the stepper, its counter showed Caigoy had taken a total of 5,719 steps. That's like climbing a skyscraper two to three times over at about one step per second.

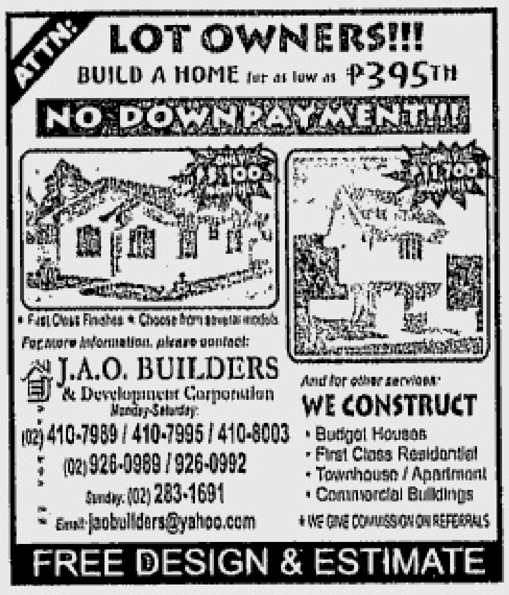
Worse, Caigoy started with the stepper's resistance level at mid-setting, "which means it was like climbing stairs carrying a load equivalent to his own weight," said Norman Lucena, one of Caigoy's gym buddies.

The resistance level, however, was gradually reduced every two hours, Lucena said.

Caigoy, he added, burned close to 5,000 calories with the marathon workout.

In the 1990s, Caigoy was a talent coordinator for stunt performers in the noontime variety show Eat Bulaga! and later in Magandang Tanghali Bayan. When he himself performs, his pay per stunt ranges from P5,000 to P15,000.

Today, whenever TV producers need such acts, he is still the man they call because he keeps a pool of "up to 100 talents" on standby.



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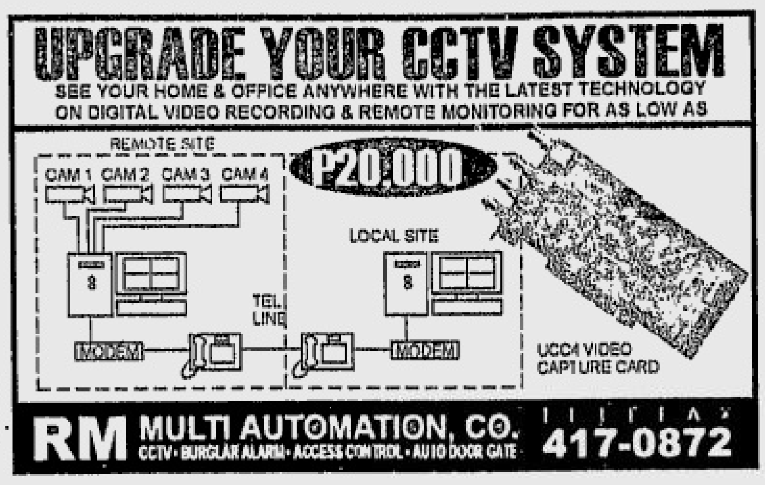

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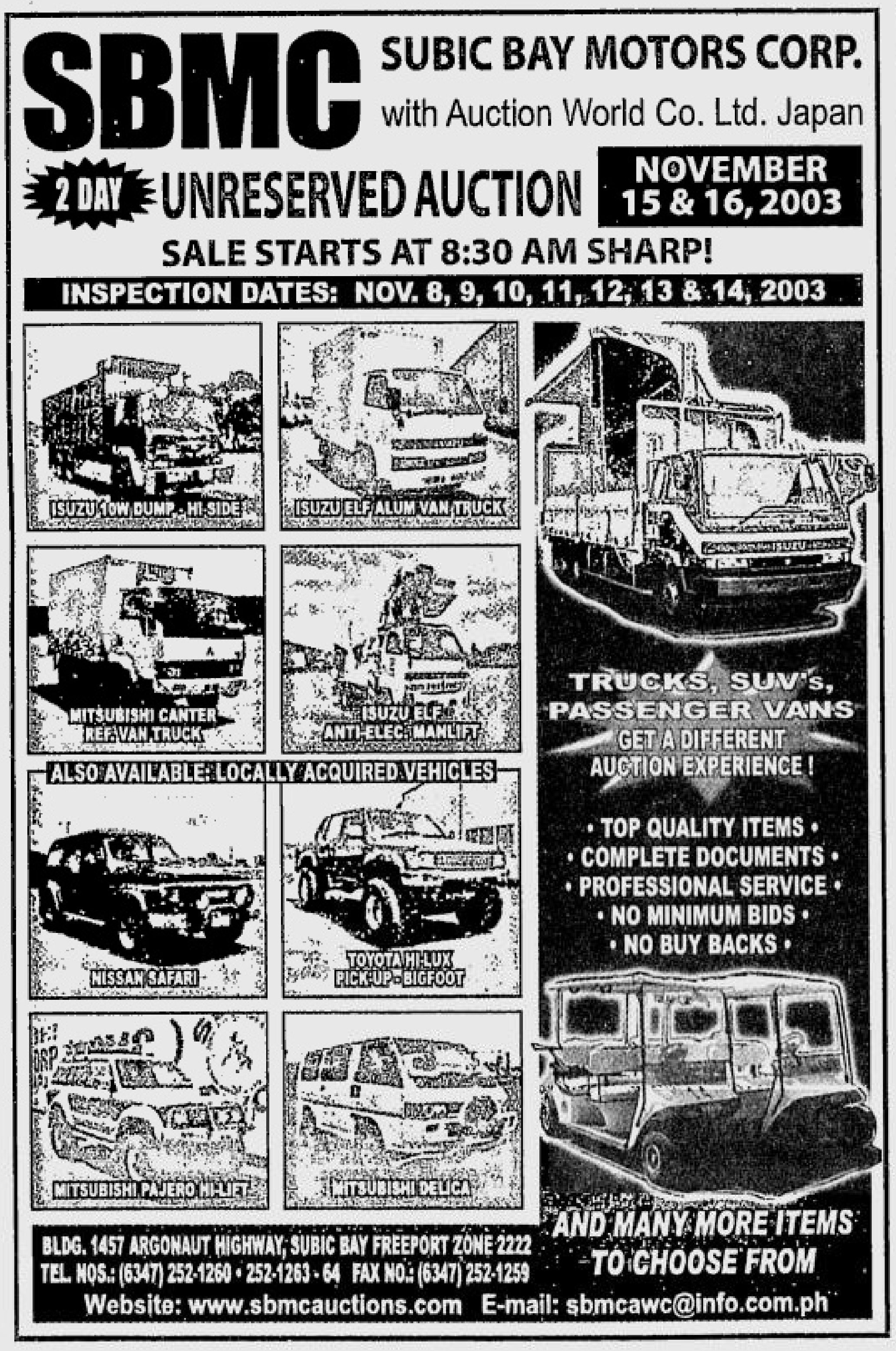

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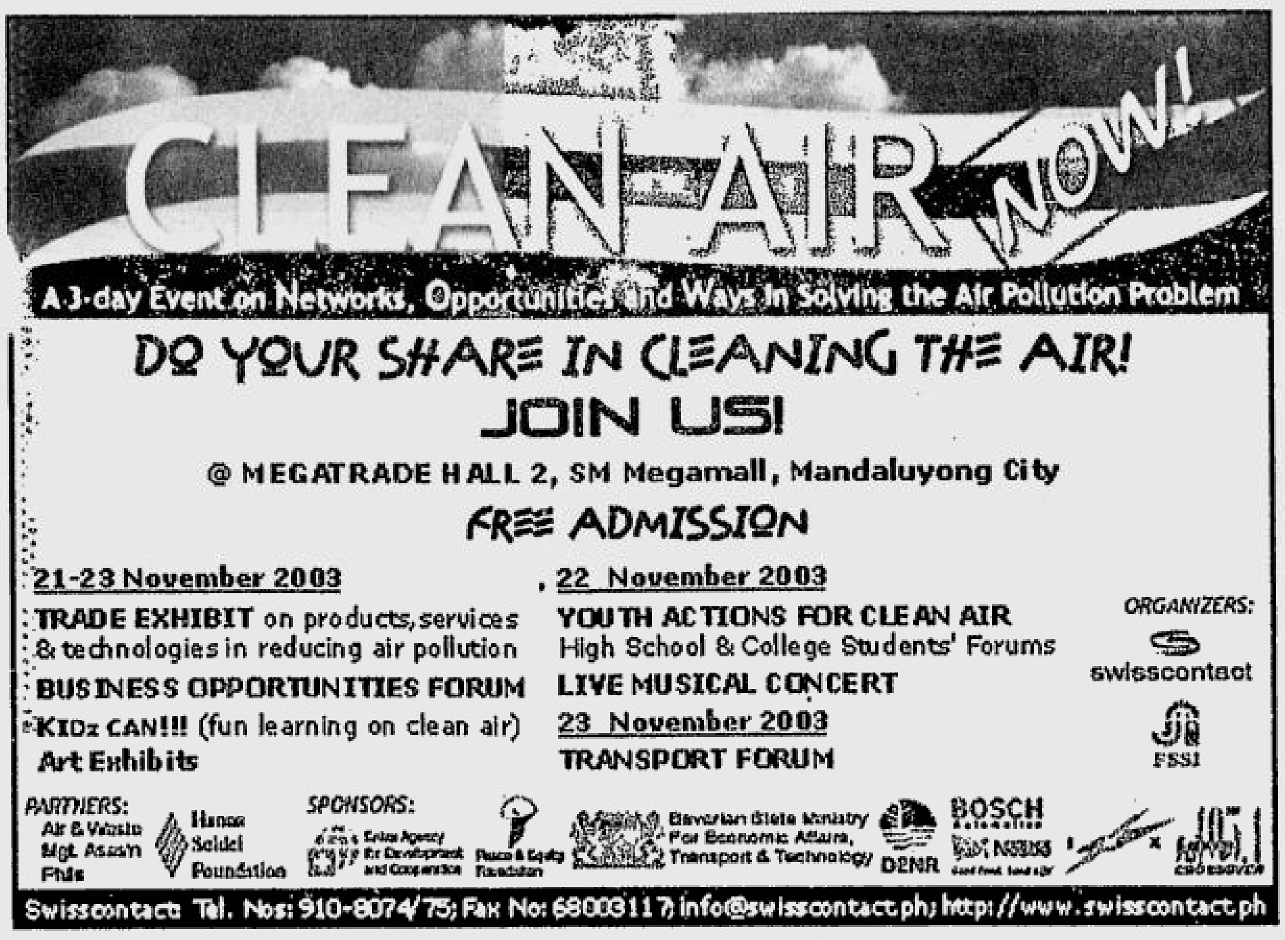

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Junk Lacson motions, urge gov't lawyers

STATE prosecutors have asked Quezon City Judge Maria Theresa Yadao to dismiss the motions for judicial determination of probable cause and re-investigation filed by Sen. Panfilo Lacson and his co-accused in the controversial Kuratong Baleleng multiple murder case.

In its consolidated motion, the prosecutors said Yadao should not conduct a hearing to determine if there was probable cause but should only review the initial determination of the prosecutor finding probable cause to see if it was supported by substantial evidence.

The prosecution, led by Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuño, said that "to conduct its own investigation on the determination of probable cause and, worse, to schedule a hearing for its determination aided by the accused is a gross violation of the rule and a clear encroachment of the functions of a prosecutor."

The consolidated motion was filed by the prosecution in response to the order of Yadao to file its comment on the motion for judicial determination of probable cause, which the defense had filed.

The prosecutors, however, stressed that the filing of their comment did not necessarily mean they had changed their argument that the court had no jurisdiction over the Kuratong Baleleng case.

Jurisdiction of the case has become a vexed issue since the Supreme Court ordered its revival two weeks ago.

State prosecutors earlier sought the transfer of the Kuratong Baleleng multiple murder case to a family court since two of the slain victims—Melebren Soronda and Sherwin Balona—were minors at the time of the incident on May 18, 1995.

Documents showed that Abalora was 17 years old, while Soronda was only 14 when they were allegedly shot dead by policemen.

Republic Act No. 8369, the law that created family courts, gave the special courts jurisdiction over cases where the victims are minors.

Tina Santos

Mahusay sued for perjury

ERSTWHILE star witness Eugenio "Udong" Mahusay Jr., the whistle-blower in the Jose Pidal exposé, was hailed Friday before the Makati Prosecutor's Office by a university professor for perjury or "lying under oath."

Hector Calilung, 30, a professor at the University of Asia and the Pacific and an active member of the Adherents and Advocates of Social Justice for School Teachers and Allied Workers (AASJS), said Mahusay should be prosecuted for the crime of perjury.

In his complaint, Calilung said the AASJS "watched (on television) with dismay the national circus spawned by the execution by respondent Mahusay of his July 21 affidavit and his subsequent repudiation of most contents thereof in his Sept. 2 testimony before the Senate."

Mahusay, the erstwhile star witness of opposition Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson, had initially executed an affidavit supporting Lacson's accusations of corruption against First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

Mahusay later recanted his statements before the Senate's blue ribbon committee.

Calilung said he was at a loss as to why neither Lacson nor Arroyo had taken any legal action against Mahusay despite the latter's admitted deception.

"Are the Senate and the Filipino people just being taken for a ride?" Calilung asked.

In an interview with the INQUIRER, he said the AASJS wanted to send the message that people who brazenly tell lies under oath should be prosecuted.

"If Mahusay can do this to the First Family and get away with it, then he can certainly do it to anybody," Calilung said.

He added that Mahusay, a former Sangguniang Kabataan chairman of Barangay Pansol, Quezon City, set a bad example to the youth who might think that it is all right to lie.

AASJS is a branch of the Social Justice Society, a political party composed mostly of lawyers.

Margaux Ortiz

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South Luzon	30847756
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South Luzon	32221928
South Luzon	30822230
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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Donors pledge $33B in aid for Iraq

MADRID—Donor nations pledged $33 billion Friday for Iraq's reconstruction, falling far short of the oil-rich country's estimated needs, as three US soldiers were killed in ongoing violence.

US Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz—a key advocate for war against Saddam Hussein—started a four-day tour of Iraq as US commanders warned they faced a tougher fight from opponents of the occupation and from the coalition-appointed Iraqi Governing Council demanding greater powers.

US officials released no details of Wolfowitz's trip, his second to Iraq, which came amid debate over progress of the US-led occupation.

The $33 billion pledged at a conference in Madrid, including $20.3 billion pledged in advance by the United States, but not aid in kind or export credits.

But that figure fell far short of the $56 billion in needs identified by the United Nations and the World Bank, for a country emerging from decades of dictatorship, war and economic sanctions.

Other pledges included $5 billion from Japan, $1 billion from Saudi Arabia and $1.5 billion from Kuwait.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund said they would provide up to $9.25 billion in loans over the next three to five years.

The pledges delighted Iraqi government spokesperson Adel Abdul Mehdi.

"Iraq today is being born again. It's being reborn. A new era is blossoming today," Mehdi said.

"The international community came together in Madrid to show their commitment to, and investment in, the future of the Iraqi people," British International Development Secretary Hilary Benn said in a statement.

Japanese Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi said Tokyo wanted to demonstrate that "reconstruction cannot be defeated through violence and terrorism."

US President George W. Bush also welcomed the pledges.

"Today's success at the Iraq Donors' Conference marked significant progress for freedom in Iraq. I commend the 73 nations and 20 international organizations that are meeting the challenge of helping the Iraqi people recover from decades of oppression and build a better future," Bush said. *AFP*

Princess Diana's sons accuse ex-butler of 'cold betrayal'

LONDON—The two sons of Britain's Princess Diana launched an unprecedented attack on her former butler Friday, accusing him of a "cold and overt betrayal" of their mother in his new book.

Princes William, 21, and Harry, 19, said that Diana, who died in a 1997 car crash in Paris, would have been mortified at a string of revelations by her ex-butler Paul Burrell.

William, the grandson of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, speaking on behalf of himself and his brother, appealed to Burrell to end his revelations.

In a statement, unprecedented in its strength of feeling, William said: "We cannot believe that Paul, who was entrusted with so much, could abuse his position in such a cold and overt betrayal.

"It is not only deeply painful for the two of us but also for everyone else affected, and it would mortify our mother if she were alive today and, if we might say so, we feel we are more able to speak for our mother than Paul.

"We ask Paul please to bring these revelations to an end."

Burrell, who worked closely with the princess and said she called him her "rock," released a series of claims in the Daily Mirror tabloid this week from his forthcoming book about his time as Diana's butler.

The Mirror reported that Diana wrote a letter 10 months before she died in a crash claiming there was a plot to kill her by tampering with the brakes of her car.

She reportedly wrote to Burrell that someone "is planning 'an accident' in my car, brake failure and serious head injury in order to make the path clear for (Prince) Charles (the heir to the throne) to marry" again.

Diana married Charles in 1981 and the pair separated 11 years later.

The revelations reignited conspiracy theories surrounding the princess' death.

Burrell refused to apologize for his book and said he was saddened by the two princes' statement.

He also took a swipe at the British royal family, saying no one contacted him or apologized following the collapse of his high-profile trial for theft last year.

Burrell was dramatically cleared by a court of stealing hundreds of Diana's possessions following her death.

The case against him collapsed after it emerged he had told Queen Elizabeth that he had been holding some items belonging to Diana for safekeeping. *AFP*

BRITAIN'S Princes William, right, and Harry in a June 14, 2003 photograph. AP

Survivors of Vietnam war killings seek retribution

VAN XUAN NO. 1 VILLAGE, Vietnam—Rice farmer Nguyen Dam still remembers the day that 10 elderly farmers were gunned down by American soldiers while tending their fields in July 1967 during the Vietnam War.

Standing on the edge of the field, he gestured with his hand as he told Reuters reporters on Saturday: "The soldiers stood here and they were shooting. It was impossible to describe it. When I think about it, it still pierces my heart."

The killings in the central Vietnam village are among the biggest atrocities committed against civilians in the province by an elite US army unit known as the "Tiger Force" for their striped camouflage uniforms. The Toledo Blade newspaper in Ohio broke the news of the war crimes on Oct. 19, saying none of the soldiers was prosecuted.

The 45-member paratroopers were assigned to spy on enemy forces in Quang Ngai and Quang Nam provinces between May and November 1967. The Blade said 81 Vietnamese were known to have been killed, possibly more, including women, children and elderly civilians.

The Pentagon, when asked about the events, has said it has no plans to reopen the investigation. The Army's probe took 4-½ years and found 18 soldiers had committed war crimes but no charges were filed. While Hanoi has said it wishes to close the book on events, eyewitnesses and survivors say they still have bitter memories and want retribution.

Huynh Thi Gioi, 68, says American soldiers shot her six-year-old son as she carried him on her back from a bunker.

Gioi believes Vietnamese victims should receive compensation for property that was destroyed by the American soldiers. "For human life lost, they should be punished," she said. *Reuters*

All 46 miners trapped underground still alive

NOVOSHAKHTINSK, Russia—Rescuers at a flooded coal mine in southern Russia have established that all 46 miners trapped by freezing water underground for nearly two days are alive, officials in the region said Saturday.

A mine official said that all the men were in "satisfactory" condition.

"They are able to walk and should be able to remount to the surface in an hour or two," the official said.

The mining town's chief medical officer Sergei Bezus said that two groups of men, one of 33 and the other of 13, had been located at two different levels of the mine.

"All but one of them, who is a little ill, are fine," he said. *AFP*

Fans bid farewell to Concorde era

LONDON—Three Concordes flew into London on Friday in a spectacular finale to the era of supersonic passenger travel.

To tears and cheers from thousands of aviation fans, the needle-nosed jets touched down at London's Heathrow Airport in a carefully choreographed curtain-call.

The flights—from Edinburgh, around the Bay of Biscay and finally from New York—touched down at two-minute intervals to bring a close to one of commercial aviation's most exciting—and expensive—experiments.

Aboard the last transatlantic Concorde, pilot Mike Bannister told the applauding passengers: "Concorde was born from dreams, built from vision and operated with pride." "Concorde is a fabulous aircraft and it has become a legend today," he said after soaring for the last time to the edge of space and flying at twice the speed of sound.

Air traffic controller Ivor Sims, 51, talking down the last Concorde, told the pilots: "We have all enjoyed you over the years. Best wishes from us all."

Champagne and vintage wines flowed during the flight as passengers, including actress Joan Collins and model Christie Brinkley, enjoyed lobster, caviar and smoked salmon.

"My overriding feeling is one of relief that it all went to plan. It was nice to see all three of them together. That has never happened before," Sims, who was a trainee in 1976 when he departed the first Concorde to New York, later said.

"It's the best office in the world," said Cabin Service Director Tracey Percy as the planes taxied in with their captains waving Union Jack flags from the cockpits.

David Hayes, who paid $60,300 in a charity auction to fly with his wife on the historic flight, said: "I started crying and my heart was racing. It was time to say goodbye."

Concorde had set the standard for transatlantic air travel.

Now the droopsnoot Queen of the Skies is to be put out to grass in aviation museums.

For many it was a sad moment.

"After 27 years of controlling the world's fastest aircraft in the world's busiest airport we will miss her. The atmosphere in the control tower and around the airport was electric," chief air traffic controller Steve James said.

Motoring correspondent and professional speed freak Jeremy Clarkson said on board the last Concorde flight: "Getting off this plane will be one giant leap backwards for mankind."

In the mid-20th century, Concorde's Anglo-French creators had hoped it would usher in a new generation of airliners.

But the high running costs, deafeningly loud engines and sonic booms turned environmentalists against it and the plane quickly became little more than an exclusive toy for superstars.

The beginning of the end came in July 2000 when an Air France flight crashed outside Paris, killing 113 people and grounding the entire French and British fleets.

Concorde resumed flying in late 2001 in the teeth of a severe post-September 11 downturn in transatlantic air travel. *Reuters*

THE LAST British Airways passenger Concorde flight lands at London's Heathrow airport from New York, Oct. 24. REUTERS

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Office 2000 MSWord,MSExcel, MSPowerPoint) P6,400/48hrs	1:30-4:30	M-F	Nov17-Dec05
	5:30-8:30	M-Th	Nov17-Dec11
Program Logic Formulation P2,400/30hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Oct27-Nov11
	1:30-4:30	M-Th	Nov17-Dec02
	6.00-9.00	M-Th	Oct27-Nov11
	8.00-2.00	M-Th	Dec08-Dec16
	8.00-5.00	Fri	Oct31-Nov21
	8.00-5.00	Fri	Nov28-Dec19
	8.00-5.00	Sun	Nov16-Dec14
Enhanced Web Page Designing in HTML & Java Script P5,500/36hrs	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec20
Web Page Designing using Dreamweaver P5,500/30hrs	6.00-9.00	M-Th	Nov17-Dec02
Developing Web Animations using Flash P4,800/24hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov24-Dec04
	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Dec08-Dec18
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Nov22
	6.00-9.00	M-Th	Nov17-Nov27
	6.00-9.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec11
Macromedia Action Script (Adv. Flash) P4,800/24hrs	8.00-5.00	Sat	Dec06-Dec20
Visual Basic.Net Fundamentals P7,500/45hrs	8.00-5.00	MWF	Dec08-Dec19
Microsoft Access P3,600/30hrs	5.30-8.30	M-Th	Nov17-Dec02
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov29-Dec20
Programming In C++ P4,000/36hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov17-Dec04
	1:30-4:30	M-Th	Oct27-Nov13
	2.00-5.00	M-Th	Dec08-Dec16
	6.00-9.00	M-Th	Nov17-Dec04
	8.00-3.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec20
JAVA Programming Fundamentals (Module 1) P6,500/36hrs	5.30-9.00	M-F	Dec08-Dec22
	8.00-3.00	MWF	Dec08-Dec19
	8.00-3.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec13
	8.00-3.00	Sun	Nov02-Dec14
Developing Applications in JAVA (Module 2) P6,500/30hrs	8.00-3.00	Sun	Nov09-Dec14
Network Technology P0,000/45hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov17-Dec10
	1:30-4:30	M-Th	Nov17-Dec10
	5.30-8.30	M-Th	Nov17-Dec10
Administering Windows 2000 Networks P8,000/54hrs	1:30-4:30	M-F	Nov17-Dec10
	6.00-9.00	M-F	Nov17-Dec10
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec20
	8.00-5.00	Sun	Nov09-Dec21
Administering Windows Network Infrastructure P8,000/48hrs	6.00-9.00	M-Th	Nov17-Dec11
Administering Active Directory P0,000/36hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov03-Nov20
	3.30-8.30	Sat	Nov22-Dec27
Linux System Administration (Linux+) P5,000/45hrs	1:30-4:30	M-F	Nov24-Dec12
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov28
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Dec01-Dec19
Linux Network Administration P5,000/30hrs	9.00-12.00	M-F	Nov24-Dec05
	9.00-12.00	M-F	Dec08-Dec18
	9.00-12.00	Sun	Nov30-Dec21
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec20
SQUID P2,000/8hrs	1:30-4:30	M&T	Dec16-Dec18
	1:30-4:30	M&T	Dec18-Dec19
	8.00-5.00	Wed	Nov19
Intro to Oracle 9i SQL P8,500/60hrs	8.00-12.00	M-F	Nov24-Dec12
CISCO 4 P6,000/70hrs	5.30-8.30	T-Th	Nov03-Dec11

ELECTRONICS

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Basic Electronics P3,900/36hrs	8.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov24
	8.00-12.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec15
	1.00-5.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov24
	1.00-5.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec15
	5.30-8.30	M-Th	Nov10-Nov27
	5.30-8.30	M-Th	Dec01-Dec18
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov15-Dec13
Microcomputer Hardware Fundamentals P4,300/36hrs	8.00-12.00	MWTh	Nov10-Nov27
	8.00-12.00	MWTh	Dec01-Dec18
	1.00-5.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov25
	1.00-5.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec16
	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec16
	8.00-5.00	Fri	Nov14-Dec12
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov15-Dec13
Microcomputer Hardware Servicing P4,500/35hrs	8.30-12.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov27
	1.30-5.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov27
	1.30-5.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec18
	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov27
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov15-Dec13
Advanced Microcomputer Hardware Servicing P4,500/35hrs	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Dec01-Dec18
	8.00-5.00	Fri	Nov14-Dec12
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov15-Dec13
Television and Monitor Servicing P3,900/36hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov27
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Dec01-Dec18
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov15-Dec13
Practical Cellular Phone Servicing P4,800/27hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Dec01-Dec11
Home Video Editing P3,300/16hrs	8.00-12.00	Sat	Nov15-Dec06
Radio Electronics P3,900/36hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov27

ELECTRICAL

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Industrial Electrician P4,500/66hrs	8.30-12.00	M-Th	Nov19-Dec19
	1.30-5.00	M-Th	Nov19-Dec19
	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Nov19-Dec19
Building Wiring Installation and Maintenance P4,600/66hrs	1.30-5.00	M-Th	Nov19-Dec18
	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Nov19-Dec18
Electrical Control Wiring Installation and Troubleshooting P4,600/48hrs	5.30-8.30	M-Th	Nov24-Dec18
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec13
Motor & Trans. Rewinding P4,600/60hrs	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Nov03-Dec02
AutoCAD 2000i P4,800/72hrs	8.30-12.00	M-F	Nov19-Dec17
	1.30-5.00	M-F	Nov19-Dec17
	5.30-9.00	M-F	Nov19-Dec17
Advanced Ind'l. Motor Control P4,600/60hrs	5.30-9.00	M-Th	Nov19-Dec18

MECHANICAL

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Lathe Machine Operation P6,000/40hrs	5.00-9.00	MTTHF	Nov10-Nov26
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov16-Dec13
Milling Machine Operation P6,000/40hrs	5.00-9.00	MTTHF	Nov10-Nov26
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov16-Dec13
Basic CAD/CAM P3,500/40hrs	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec06
CNC Milling Programming P3,500/40hrs	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov16-Dec13
Gas Welding Cutting & Brazing P3,600/40hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov20
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec20

AUTOMOTIVE/REF & AIRCON

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Basic Driving Course P6,000/19hrs	1.00-5.00	M-F	Nov10-Dec05
Auto Engine Electrical P3,000/42hrs	9.00-12.00	M-F	Nov10-Nov27
	2.00-5.00	M-F	Nov10-Nov27
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov27
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec06
Auto Body Electrical P3,600/48hrs	9.00-12.00	M-F	Nov10-Dec01
	2.00-5.00	M-Th	Nov10-Dec04
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Dec01
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec13
Gas Engine Mechanic P4,200/60hrs	9.00-12.00	M-F	Nov10-Dec05
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Dec05
	8.00-5.00	Sat	Nov08-Dec27
Diesel Engine Mechanic P4,200/60hrs	2.00-5.00	M-F	Nov10-Dec05
	8.00-5.00	Sat/Sun	Nov29-Dec27
Basic Car Maintenance P2,800/30hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov10-Nov26
	9.00-12.00	M-F	Dec02-Dec15
	2.00-5.00	MWF	Nov10-Dec01
Automatic Transmission Mechanic P4,200/60hrs	9.00-12.00	M-F	Nov10-Dec05
Electronic Fuel Injection Servicing P4,200/48hrs	9.00-12.00	M-Th	Nov10-Dec04
	2.00-5.00	M-Th	Nov10-Dec04
	5.30-8.30	M-Th	Nov10-Dec04
Underchassis Mechanic P3,900/60hrs	2.00-5.00	M-F	Nov10-Dec05
Refrigeration & Aircon Servicing P4,500/60hrs	9.00-12.00	M-F	Nov24-Dec19

INSTRUMENTATION

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Pneumatic Ind'l. Controls P4,200/42hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov28
Electro-Pneumatics P4,200/42hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Dec01-Dec19
	8.00-4.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec13
Basic PLC P4,200/42hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov28
	5.30-8.30	M-F	Dec01-Dec19
	8.00-4.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec13
Calibration for Process Instrumentation P4,200/36hrs	5.30-8.30	M-F	Nov10-Nov28
	9.00-4.00	Sat	Nov22-Dec13
Machine Automation Course P10,900/126hrs	5.30-9.00	M-F	Nov10-Jan30

APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES

Course	Time	Days	Dates
Enhancing Communication Skills P2,400/21hrs	9.00-6.00	Sat	Nov15-Nov29
Creating Preventive Maintenance Systems P2,400/21hrs	9.00-6.00	Sat	Nov15-Nov29

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Russia's richest man Khodorkovsky arrested

KHODORKOVSKY

MOSCOW—Oil magnate Mikhail Khodorkovsky, arrested by security forces early Saturday, is by far Russia's wealthiest tycoon with an estimated $8 billion fortune.

In recent weeks he has become increasingly caught up in a legal campaign launched against the Yukos oil giant, the focus of a series of fraud and murder inquiries that he says is politically motivated.

Analysts believe his troubles may be linked to his stated intention to fund a liberal opposition to President Vladimir Putin in the months leading up to parliamentary elections in December to be followed three months later by a presidential poll.

The 40-year-old Yukos chair finances two small opposition parties, Yabloko and the Union of Rightist Forces (SPS) and reportedly, the largest opposition group, the Communists.

Khodorkovsky has been taken in for questioning before, notably last July in connection with the arrest of Platon Lebedev, chair of Menatep bank who is suspected of embezzling more than $280 million worth of stock during the privatization of state-owned fertilizer maker Apatit in 1994.

That arrest was seen as a clear warning to the tycoon not to meddle in the upcoming elections.

From lowly beginnings as a loyal Soviet-era Communist Party member to the CEO of Russia's largest oil producer Yukos, Khodorkovsky made his billions in the free-for-all that accompanied the Soviet Union's collapse.

He was one of the quieter oligarchs to have supported former president Boris Yeltsin, whose mandate was notoriously marked by the huge influence carried by dazzlingly rich tycoons.

He now seems to be following an all too familiar pattern—falling out with Yeltsin's successor Putin and suffering for it.

Khodorkovsky made his first millions before the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union, before he turned 30, founding in 1987 what would become Menatap bank.

The Moscow native continues to hold a 59-percent stake in the bank, which made huge profits through currency speculation and grabbed up massive amounts of shares in companies that were privatized for bargain prices in the early 1990s.

Khodorkovsky's political ambitions began early. Before the fall of the Soviet Union, he followed the regular power track, joining the Komsomol Communist Youth League and later the Communist Party.

He then worked as a government adviser from 1990 to 1992, also briefly serving as deputy fuel and energy minister. *AFP*

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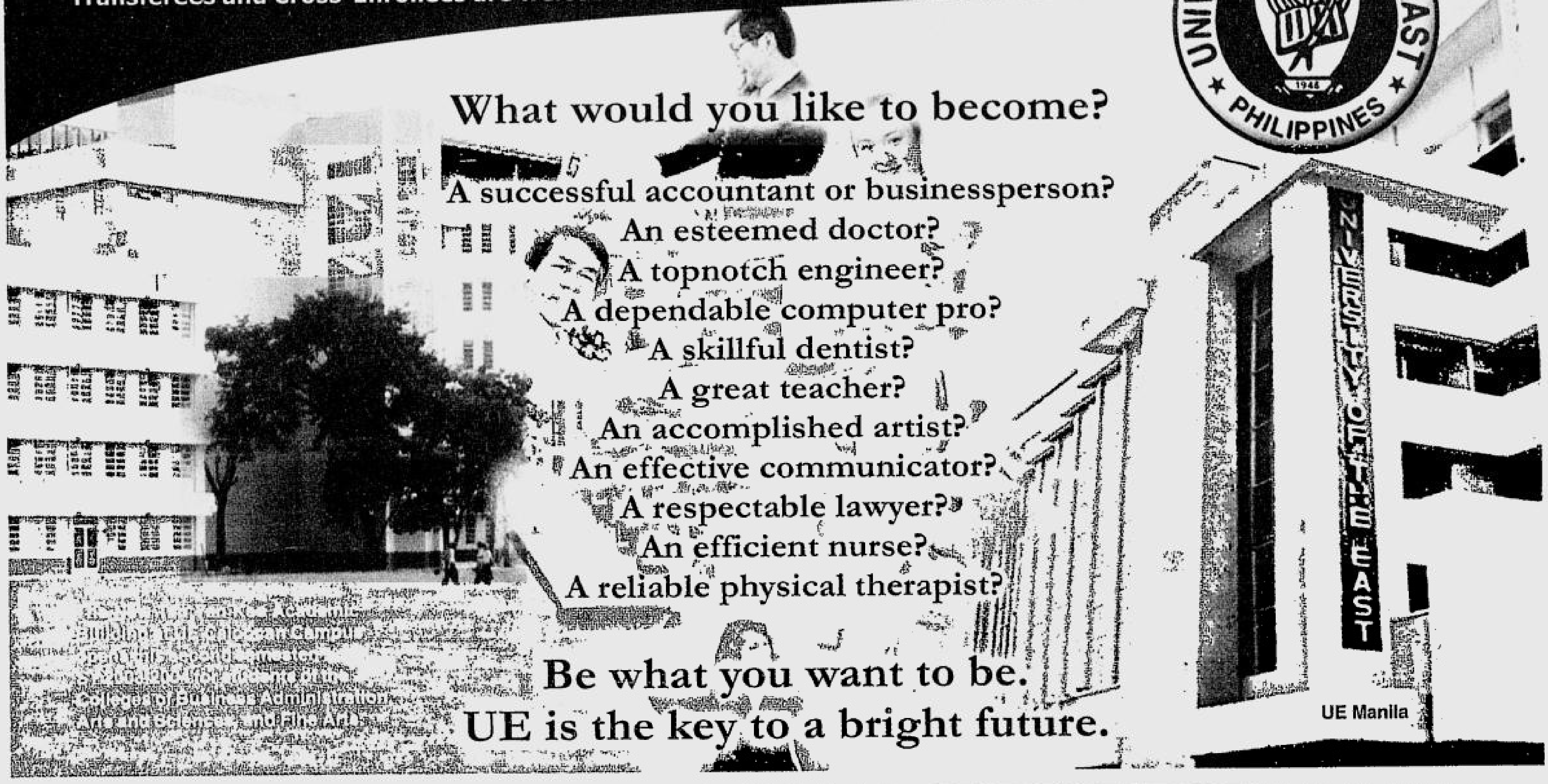

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Davide, solons can work things out–GMA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo believes that Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. and the lawmakers who impeached him can work things out and avoid a bruising Senate trial.

In a speech at the 50th anniversary celebration yesterday of the Federation of Free Farmers, Ms Macapagal reiterated her sadness over the impeachment of Davide, who presided over the historic impeachment trial of then President Joseph Estrada and swore her in the presidency after Estrada was ousted in January 2001.

"I have the highest esteem for Chief Justice Davide. His integrity and professionalism are impeccable," Ms Macapagal said in her second statement on Davide in as many days.

"I am confident that the congressmen and the Supreme Court will be able to settle their differences and avoid an unproductive clash between these two independent and co-equal branches of government," she said.

Also yesterday at the opening ceremony of Palarong Pambansa 2003 in Tubod, Lanao del Norte, the President told some 20,000 people including about 4,000 student-athletes: "We shall overcome this conflict."

She said the conflict between the House of Representatives and the Supreme Court was undermining the national government's efforts at teamwork in the national leadership level as a requirement for a strong republic.

But she expressed the hope that "in due time, [the] conflict will be resolved."

The President again paid tribute to Davide, saying: "No Chief Justice has implemented and undertaken a judicial reform program like the program undertaken by [him]."

She described Davide's reform program as "bold and revolutionary" and designed to "bring the country's judicial system in the 21st century."

She also said it would strengthen democracy and ensure reliable and speedy justice. *Juliet Labog-Javellana in Manila; Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

GOLDEN COCONUT: President Macapagal addresses the 3,000 delegates of the Federation of Free Farmers celebrating its 50th anniversary on Saturday. Ms Macapagal honored the farmers group by appointing its president to head the Coconut Industry Investment Fund effective tomorrow. The FFF denounced the impeachment of the Chief Justice. VAL HANDUMON

Lakas: We didn't do it

From page A1

termine whether Lakas' reputation and principles were being "cast into serious question."

Alvarez said he was surprised to learn that the congressmen who had signed the complaint did so in haste.

"It is amazing that without deliberations and consultation, a big bulk of signatures suddenly materializes. It was done too fast, too soon, too many," he said.

Alvarez also sought to assure Arroyo that Lakas had nothing to do with the decision of a few members and that he himself would not allow the integrity of the Supreme Court to be destroyed by partisan politics.

Arroyo, an administration senator, said Friday that the President, the House and Lakas had colluded with businessman Eduardo Cojuangco's Nationalist People's Coalition to impeach Davide. He said Davide was "sacrificed on the altar of Lakas-NPC unity" to ensure Ms Macapagal's victory at the polls.

Baseless and absurd

But Lakas congressmen said Arroyo's statement was "out of bounds, baseless and absurd."

Davao City Rep. Prospero Nograles, who did not sign the impeachment complaint, reminded Arroyo that members of Congress were independent-minded.

"Joker is seeing images that are not there," Nograles said yesterday. "His holier-than-thou statement is uncalled-for. He must realize that Congress is not like a sheep herded to slaughter. The impeachment case is a judgment call for every congressman."

Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Albano said the impeachment case could not have been a Lakas-NPC plot because among the signatories were members of the opposition, party-list groups and the Liberal Party, and even independent congressmen.

Complaints of employees

Himself a signatory, Albano said that there were never talks between the NPC and Lakas regarding the impeachment, and that the endorsement of the complaint was borne out of the frustration of House members who were looking into the supposed misuse of the Judiciary Development Fund (JDF).

He said the House inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the disbursement of the JDF was based on the complaint of employees of the judiciary.

"But Chief Justice Davide did not want to participate in the congressional [probe]. He arrogantly declared that Congress has no authority to look into the JDF," Albano said.

He also said it was "unthinkable" that Davide would be sacrificed for Ms Macapagal's political interest.

"The President need not use anyone to promote her candidacy," Albano said. "She has a formidable party and enjoys popular backing."

According to De Venecia, "the allegation that Lakas wants the second impeachment complaint to prosper over-stretches the limit of logic."

"Why would Lakas, the party in power, want to destabilize the House of Representatives and the Macapagal [administration] when it is stability, more than anything else, that we have all been trying to achieve?" he said.

Unfair

Ms Macapagal's spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said Arroyo's accusation was "unfair."

"The President's position with regard to Congress, the Supreme Court and the Senate is, these are independent bodies," Bunye said. 'That's why she does not interfere in their internal affairs. So we take strong exceptions to [Arroyo's] allegations."

Bunye also said it was wrong for presidential contender Raul Roco to blame Ms Macapagal for Davide's impeachment and accuse her of doing nothing to prevent it.

"The President has her own view on that, which is different from the opinion of [Roco]," Bunye said. "He wants interference, the President wants to respect the independence of these constitutional bodies."

Differing from the President's statement, Bunye said her position was to let the impeachment process proceed so that Davide could defend himself during the trial. *(See boxed story).*

Follow rules

"We hope this process proceeds smoothly and prevents any constitutional crisis that some people fear [would happen]," he said.

Asked what Malacañang would do to prevent a constitutional crisis and the erosion of business confidence, he said: "So long as the process goes on speedily and all the rules are followed, I think our institutions will remain strong. Our institutions will become weak if there is too much interference."

Bunye also said calls for Davide's resignation were for the Chief Justice to decide.

He said the matter of the constitutionality of the second complaint against Davide was for the deliberation of the Supreme Court, as the final arbiter of the law.

Or, he said, it could be debated in the Senate during the impeachment trial.

The right thing

Senate President Franklin Drilon, who will preside over the trial of Davide once the Articles of Impeachment reaches the Senate next week, praised Ms Macapagal's hands-off stance on the matter.

"She did the right thing," he said, but did not air a rebuke of Senator Arroyo.

Drilon said the President should not be blamed for not blocking the impeachment complaint "because she was merely following the constitutional provision on the separation of powers among the three branches of government."

He said he expected Ms Macapagal to likewise not interfere in the impeachment trial.

Risk

Drilon made a similar statement in Iloilo City, where he spoke before 1,000 delegates at the convention of Ugyon, the regional political party that he chairs.

"I am not prepared to accept the gospel truth that the complaint is politically motivated, although it must be admitted that impeachment is a political process," he said.

At a subsequent press conference, he again refused to comment on Arroyo's allegation that the President allowed the impeachment of Davide to consolidate support for the 2004 elections.

He merely said: "We will receive it [the Articles of Impeachment] and decide on it with impartiality."

Drilon conceded that there was a risk that the foundations of the judicial system would be "shaken" because of the impeachment complaint.

He said a constitutional crisis could occur if the Supreme Court took it upon itself to decide on the legality of the complaint and attempted to stop the proceedings.

Drilon also said a caucus would be held at the Senate tomorrow to discuss the impeachment process.

Pure speculation

Opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said it would be improper for him to comment on Arroyo's statement because he would sit as a juror in the impeachment trial.

But he described Arroyo's claim as "pure speculation."

"The rumors are true as rumors," said Pimentel, who had earlier claimed that Cojuangco and Ms Macapagal might have struck a deal in connection with the lifting of the nine sequestration orders on San Miguel Corp. shares being claimed by the Cojuangco camp.

Do away with recess

Pimentel said the Senate should act on the impeachment complaint with dispatch and do away with its Nov. 1-9 recess so as not to delay the proceedings.

"The impeachment of Chief Justice Davide is a sad day for believers in his integrity," Pimentel said. "But the Senate must uphold the rule of law and give the Chief Justice his day in court without fear or favor." *With reports from Michael Lim Ubac in Manila; Nestor Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

Davide to Congress: Don't be tool of destruction

From page A1

employees in the judiciary, "and they are receiving it every month" as cost-of-living allowance.

- That there was "nothing extravagant" in the construction of the Supreme Court Hall and other property.
- That the construction award was given to the lowest bidders.

"I'm very careful about that," the Chief Justice said. "I can't tolerate any violations of legal procedure, rules and regulations regarding the award for infrastructure and construction. I have been very careful about this. I'll always fight graft and corruption."

Davide said that by filing the impeachment complaint against him, the congressmen were destroying the high court.

"I would like to emphasize that it is not the Chief Justice they're destroying," he said. "It [is] the Supreme Court, the last bulwark of democracy. It will be very, very sad for our country if they will push" the impeachment complaint.

Text brigade

Text messages yesterday flashed all over Metro Manila urging people to protest Davide's impeachment by wearing black tomorrow.

"In support of Davide and democracy, please wear black armbands or tie black ribbons in your car or home this Monday," one text message read.

In protest against the supposed involvement of Cojuangco, chair and chief executive of San Miguel Corp., in Davide's impeachment, another text message urged consumers to boycott SMC products.

Yet another text message alleged that Cojuangco paid P5 million each to the 93 congressmen who signed the second impeachment complaint against Davide. "Let the corrupt 93 feel our anger," the message read.

Another said: "Let us call, text and write media so we can tell those congressmen we care for democracy and love our country."

Similar text messages were also circulated in Cebu City.

More protests

Yet other groups aired statements condemning Davide's impeachment as unconstitutional.

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines, speaking through its national president Jose Anselmo Cadiz, assailed the House of Representatives for "destabilizing" the country with its impeachment of the Chief Justice and demanded that President Macapagal-Arroyo make a stand on the issue.

"This move of the House comes at a time when the Filipino people are suffering from economic stagnation, inflation and other woes. We need this impeachment complaint being transmitted to the Senate like [we need] a hole in the head," Cadiz said at a press conference.

With Cadiz at the press conference were other IBP officers and the board of governors, including Angelica Ynares-Santiago, daughter of Supreme Court Associate Justice Consuelo Ynares-Santiago.

They called on the public to pressure the lawmakers who signed the impeachment complaint to withdraw their signatures.

Chaos

"We urge the Filipino people to put pressure on congressmen and plead with them not to further create chaos in the country. And if it seems irreversible, we plead with the people to repudiate these congressmen come election time," Cadiz said.

He said all 40,000 IBP members would start wearing black armbands starting tomorrow.

Judges and court employees earlier said that beginning tomorrow, they would wear black armbands and hold prayer vigils and noise barrages at noon.

Political terrorism

Jesus I. Santos, founder and chair of the National Association of Lawyers for Justice and Peace, expressed certainty that "the Filipino people will not tolerate this political terrorism."

"The assault of [the House] on the judiciary... is not only baseless and illegal, it is also against the moral principles on which our democratic institutions are founded," Santos said in a statement.

Judge Lauro Sandoval, president of the judges association of Nueva Ecija, relayed to the Inquirer in Cabanatuan City the view of 18 regional trial court judges in the province: that the impeachment of Davide was a "patent and conspiratorial assault" that would only lower the people's trust and confidence in the judiciary.

Black armbands

"It would seem that the sole aim of the impeachment is to advance the political and economic interests of a few," Sandoval said.

Sandoval said all judges in Nueva Ecija would wear black armbands to show their full support for Davide.

Lawyer Ruperto Sampoleo, dean of the Araullo University's college of law and vice president of the Philippine Association of Law Deans, said Davide's impeachment would taint the public regard for the judiciary.

"The saving grace in this impeachment case is that it is generally believed that it was a political move by Cojuangco's cohorts, and that Davide has an unimpeachable character as a person," Sampoleo said.

Signatures withdrawn

In Baguio City, Rep. Mauricio Domogan said he withdrew his signature from the impeachment complaint after finding Davide's explanation on the issues raised as "acceptable."

Domogan, Cordillera coordinator of the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats, said he had earlier endorsed the complaint but included a marginal note that Davide should be given the chance to explain.

"He did, so I withdrew my signature," Domogan said.

Unseen forces

Caloocan City Rep. Edgar Erice also said he had withdrawn his signature in view of "unseen forces machinating a scenario that would put the government into a state of uncertainty."

"I made a mistake," Erice told INQUIRER in a phone interview. "I regret having signed it because I thought it passed through the House committee on justice, which is the usual procedure in an impeachment complaint."

'Sunshine collision'

In Tagbilaran City, a ranking Lakas officer said Speaker De Venecia should explain to the people why the so-called Sunshine Coalition in Congress had become a "Sunshine Collision."

Rep. Apolinario Lozada (5th district, Negros Occidental) made the remark when asked why 17 Lakas lawmakers signed the impeachment complaint.

Lozada, Lakas vice president for international affairs, admitted that the 17 Lakas signatures would "reflect on the leadership of the party."

"If only the 17 did not sign, we would not have this crisis," he told reporters Friday.

He said a caucus should have been called when the impeachment authors started asking for signatures.

Former President Corazon Aquino is saddened by Davide's impeachment and has offered prayers in support of the Chief Justice, according to former Cebu City Rep. Nancy Cuenco, her close friend.

Cuenco said she spoke briefly yesterday morning with the former President.

Cory praying

"She told me she is praying hard for the Chief Justice. She is really saddened. She believes in the integrity of the Chief Justice," Cuenco said.

Support for Davide continued to swell in Cebu, with certain groups calling for a boycott of SMC products.

Mass

Fr. Carmelo Diola, executive director of the Church-based group Kamatuoran-Cebu, said the movement to defend Davide and the judicial system would be launched during a Mass tomorrow at the Redemptorist Church at 6:30 p.m.

Diola said the impeachment of Davide was not just a personal attack on the Chief Justice but was also meant to undermine the judicial system.

"We cannot take this sitting down," he said. *Reports from TJ Burgonio, Christine A. Paita, Philip C. Tubeza and Tina Santos in Manila; Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk; Jovelyn Reyes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Chito A. Fuentes, Jhunnex Napallacan and Alex Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Camacho walks out of budget hearing

From page A1

The DOF's budget was first on the agenda of the House appropriations committee last Friday, which was to take up certain items that were unfinished during a hearing last Monday.

What made Camacho get up and walk out was when the committee decided to call the Department of Transportation and Communication, a large agency that he knew would take up a lot of the committee's time.

He stood up and left the hall quietly. Other finance officials must have followed, he said.

Whipping boy

The finance secretary has become the favorite whipping boy of legislators, particularly some senators, since being appointed in 2001. Camacho said he takes most of this in stride. Last Friday was the first time he allowed himself to get upset.

"I could stay there all day. I would have taken any reason. But to be waiting without knowing what's going to happen next is really rude. We sacrifice time away from our families so we make sure that the time we sacrifice is time well spent," said Camacho who is known to be a devoted family man.

"I think the DOF hearing was suspended at least five times. So they could not accuse Camacho or any of us for being petty. We wasted so much time in Congress and we are glad Camacho did what he did," said the head of one of the DOF's attached agencies.

Camacho said finance officials are constantly being taken to task for the huge budget deficit and for not raising sufficient revenues.

"They always tell us to raise more money and be more in control of our expenditures. But how can we do that if they waste so much of our time," he said.

P6-B budget

The department is seeking Congress approval for a budget of a little over P6 billion, of which about P4 billion would go to the Bureau of Internal Revenue. The next biggest item in the finance budget is that of the Bureau of Customs.

Camacho said Rep. Rolando Andaya, one of the appropriations committee heads, had called him.

"Congressman Andaya called up and said we could be rescheduled next time. I said *bahala na* (whatever)," Camacho said.

The finance chief stressed there was nothing unusual about the DOF budget as it was almost the same as last year's.

"The DOF is one of the biggest government agencies. But what we are asking for is a fairly small budget," he said.

Noel Albano, the House deputy secretary general, said he did not notice any walk-out.

Rescheduled

"We were not aware of any walk-out. I was there until the session adjourned," Albano said.

Albano said the DOF budget was supposed to be tackled by the House plenary at 8 a.m. on Friday. However, it was moved to 2 p.m., and again to later that night because of unfinished debate on the budgets of other departments.

Albano also cited the impeachment complaint against Chief Justice Hilario Davide as among the reasons for the delay.

School . . .

From page A1

Pandan principal Alfonso Saret said the transformation started two years ago when it was chosen a Model of Excellence (MoE) school by the US-based Books for the Barrios Inc. and the local LBC Foundation.

Donations from the two foundations poured in.

Mayor Fernando V. Gonzales, who had a strong commitment to improving the city's education system, gave the school an additional plot of land on which to put up additional buildings.

Saret said that since Pandan became an MoE school, its pupils started to excel in their academics. He observed that instead of playing during their break, the students spent their time in the library reading books.

The school also held workshops that helped the students develop their talents in singing and dancing.

Rosie Peñalosa, the school's guidance counselor, said their pupils were not only well-rounded, they were also well-behaved.

English, computer lessons

Saret said that because of the MoE program, their pupils are now proficient in English. Under the school curriculum, pupils are required to learn a new English word a day and how to use it in a sentence.

Pupils in Grades 2 to 6 also take up computer lessons and have access to the Internet.

Saret said the innovations introduced by the MoE program have made the students more sociable and confident.

A Grade 6 pupil, Candy Lee Arnaldo, won first prize in a city division-level paintbrush competition this year.

The school was also recently given by a local cable television operator access to the Knowledge Channel, which has been highly recommended by education authorities because of its educational programs.

The Books for the Barrios Inc., headed by Nancy Stowe Harrington, is a nonprofit corporation run by volunteers that collects textbooks, educational learning aids and devices from schools, publishers and students in the United States and gives them out to remote public schools in the Philippines.

The LBC Foundation delivers the books for free to recipient MoE schools like Pandan. It has so far delivered five million books to 10,000 public schools around the country.

Michael B. Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

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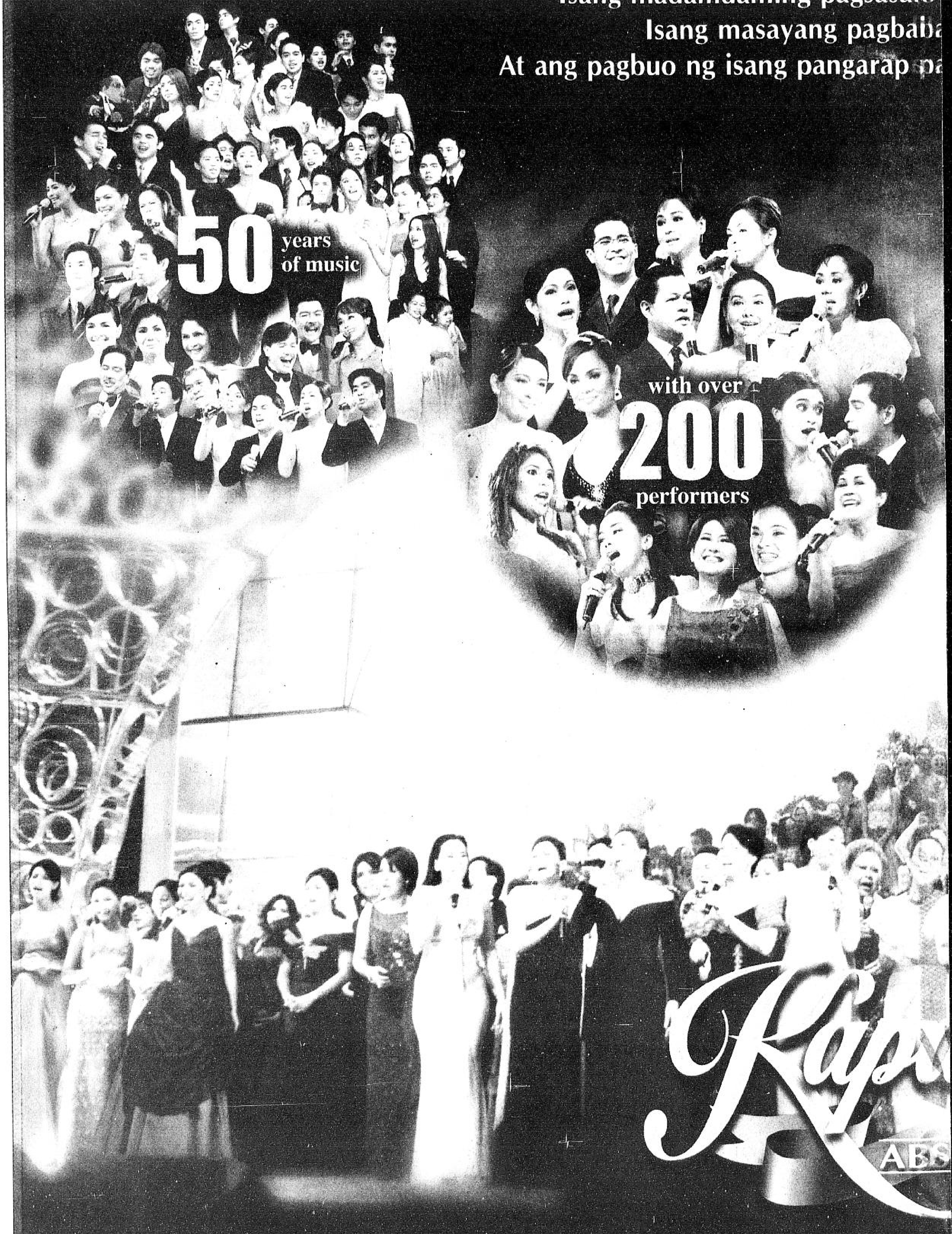
Isang madamdaming pagsasalo
Isang masayang pagbaba
At ang pagbuo ng isang pangarap pa



Part 1 • 26 October 2003 Sunday •

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Miriam Chui • Julia Clarete • Wency Cornejo • Pilita Corrales • Paolo Contis • Geneva Cruz • John Lloyd Cruz • Rayver Cruz • Rojun Cruz • Sunshine Cruz • Sharon Cuneta • Lindsay Custodio • Dagul • Maoui David • Mon David •
Ana Fegi • Gretchen Fullido • Helen Gamboa • Jean Garcia • Michelle Garcia • Patrick Garcia • Sergio Garcia • Baron Geisler • Audie Gemora • Glaiza • Edward Granadosin • Catherine Gonzales • Kristine Gonzales • Kristine Hermosa •
Jan Marini • Karel Marquez • Long Mejia • Ding Mercado • Eddie Mercado • Jude Michael • Luke Mijares • Jenny Miller • Miss Philippines winners • Cesar Montano • Raul Montessa • Vina Morales • Aga Muhlach • Mura •
Nikka Peralejo • Paula Peralejo • Rica Peralejo • Amy Perez • Philippine Ballet Theatre • Alex Pierson • Pepe Pimentel • Gerard Pizzaras • Camille Prats • John Prats • Willie Revillame • Gladys Reyes • Manilyn Reynes •
Vilma Santos • Robert Seña • Maricel Soriano • Ciara Sotto • Tito Sotto • Vic Sotto • Timmyboy Sta. Maria • Streetboys • Tado • Apreal Tolentino • Tessie Tomas • UP Singing Ambassadors • Ariel Ureta • Alwyn Uytingco •

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ng tunay na magkakapamilya.
lik-tanaw sa nakaraan.
ara sa susunod na limampung taon.

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years
of color, brilliance
and magic
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de las Alas • Keempee de Leon • Joey de Leon • Desiree del Valle • Dianne dela Fuente • Michael de Mesa • Assunta de Rossi • Devo • Dolphy • Bituin Escalante • John Estrada • Michelle Estevez • Heart Evangelista • Isabelle Fabregas
• Hotlegs • Agot Isidro • Lana Jalosjos • Menchu Lauchengco • Ayen Laurel • Franco Laurel • Kuh Ledesma • Corrine Lirio • Bing Loyzaga • Pauline Luna • Shaina Magdayao • Mahal • Romy Mallari • Smokey Manaloto • Maneouvers
Navarro • Nina • Diether Ocampo • Dominic Ochoa • Winifred Omwakwe • Tex Ordoñez • Carlos Orosa • Dennis Padilla • Zsa Zsa Padilla • Bernard Palanca • Miko Palanca • Angelica Panganiban • Piolo Pascual • Roderick Paulate
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Abuse of power

EDITORIAL

THE IMPEACHMENT of Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., engineered by the most strictly disciplined political party since the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos' Kilusan Bagong Lipunan, is an outrage. We denounce this abuse of power in the strongest possible terms.

The insulting motherhood statements offered by the two principal authors of the second impeachment complaint cannot disguise the bare truth: The action against the head of the Supreme Court was a naked exercise of power, a blatant flexing of political muscle. "No one is above the law," said Rep. Gilbert Teodoro, the leader of the Nationalist People's Coalition in the House, after submitting the complaint before the House secretary general's office on Thursday. No one, that is, except the NPC, which delayed action on the first impeachment complaint in order to pass a second complaint that was illegal and unconstitutional on its face.

"It is a matter of human rights," Rep. Wimpy Fuentebella said, because the employees of the judiciary were allegedly deprived of their rightful share of the Judiciary Development Fund by the fund's sole administrator, Davide. As Sen. Joker Arroyo has pointed out, however, the House has not yet completed its inquiry into the alleged mismanagement of the fund. How Fuentebella, a young legislator in a party led by once-young politicians like ex-Ambassador, ex-Senator, ex-city councilor Ernesto Maceda, could have already reached his conclusion defies logic.

Without completed hearings, without debate, and—the key legal point—without a finding, more than 76 congressmen identified with NPC founder Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. somehow divined the reason to send the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to the Senate, to face trial. They were aided by the stupidity or the cowardice of callow lawmakers like Cibac party-list Rep. Kim Bernardo-Lokin or ambitious politicians like Lakas Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri.

Lokin's reasoning, that she wants an impeachment trial because it will give Davide a chance to air his side, must rank among the most ignorant pronouncements ever to come out of Congress, which is not exactly known as the fount of wisdom. This reason is like saying a court should indict a suspect for murder so that the prosecutors can take his deposition. And Zubiri, who figured prominently in the impeachment case against President Joseph Estrada? Not a word of explanation, for political behavior that cannot be explained.

The truth of the matter is, the NPC got the House to impeach Davide because it could. The signatures need to be verified, and the Articles of Impeachment need to be approved, but Davide is as good (or as bad) as impeached. And it is the NPC that effectively packed him off to the Senate.

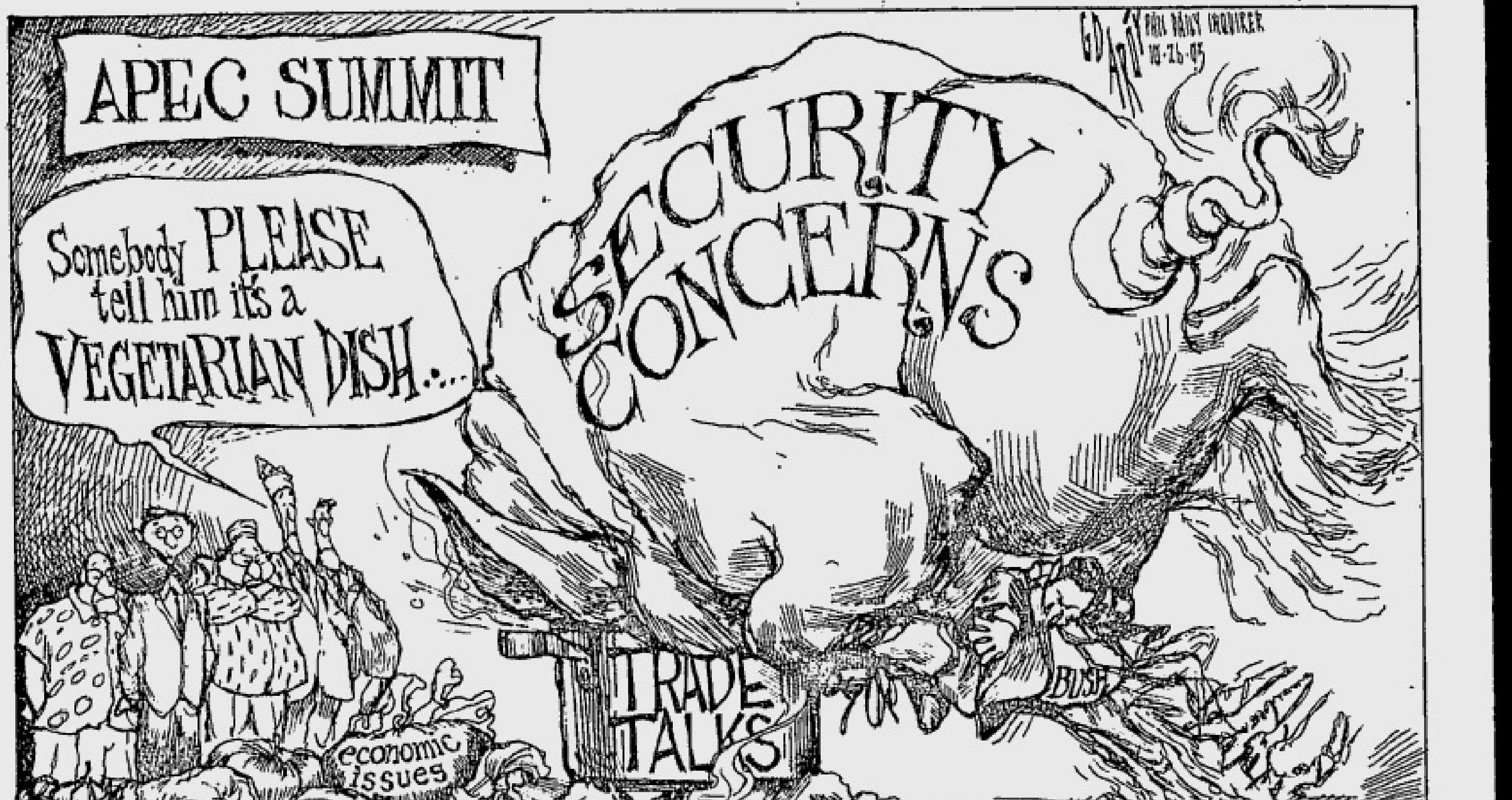
Why Davide? Because under the Chief Justice, the decades-long legal struggle to recover ill-gotten wealth accumulated during the Marcos regime finally seems to be reaching a conclusion. The fate of Cojuangco's many-sequestered empire now looks less than bright.

The NPC, the second-largest bloc in the House, was founded a decade ago when Cojuangco ran unsuccessfully for president. It has an embarrassment of party elders, but it is directed, unmistakably, by Cojuangco, and led on the ground, efficiently, by Teodoro, often described as Cojuangco's favorite nephew and political heir-apparent.

When the NPC realized that the first complaint against Davide would fail the sufficiency in substance test at the committee level, it maneuvered to delay the proceedings, and in about three days, under the greatest secrecy, engineered the second complaint. It opted to use the one-third rule—the constitutional provision that shortens the impeachment process—to ram the complaint through.

Never mind that Davide had already explained his side in a letter to Speaker Jose de Venecia. At some point in the last several days, the NPC realized that an impeachment case can prosper, not on the merits, but on sheer number.

Because psychologists teach us that behavior is reinforcement, we can expect the NPC to use the threat of unsheathing the "terrible sword" of impeachment as a point of leverage. Who's next? The President?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Foreigners in our own land

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

SO the merchants are manipulating the people again to celebrate another brown Halloween in this land of mangoes and bamboo. Once again the department stores are filled with all kinds of scary items—from bizarre masks to skeleton attire—for the children to wear in imitation of their white contemporaries in far-off America. The boys and girls from the plush villages of Dasmariñas and Forbes Park, and even middle-class subdivisions like my own Merville in Parañaque City, will be repeating the mock threat of "Trick or Treat?" although many of them have not heard of Ichabod Crane and the Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

We celebrate Christmas and Valentine's Day but not to ape other peoples. These are universal events to which no country can lay exclusive claim. Welcoming the New Year is an international custom based mainly on the hope that it will bring better days to those awaiting the stroke of midnight. There is no imitation either when we observe Easter Sunday, which is a festivity shared by the Christian world regardless of class distinctions.

Halloween, however, is peculiar to England, where it originated, and more so now to the United States, where it has evolved into an occasion for good clean fun among the children. I observed its celebration some years ago, where the youngsters visited each house and were received with the usual good cheer and plenty of candies. Even the adults directly joined in the merriment by giving parties at which they dressed themselves as witches and Draculas and other frightful characters. I wondered if some grown-ups in this tropical land of ours were engaging in similar hi-jinks to show they were as sophisticated as the Americans.

What makes us so imitative? Why do many of our people take pride in being likened to others in abject recognition of the superiority of their idolized models? Why do we plan contests for the Miss Nicole Kidman of the Philippines or the Philippine Frank Sinatra or the local Tiger Woods? Aren't we proud enough of Lea Salonga as the Filipina singer who won a Tony or of Efren "Bata" Reyes as the The Magician from the Philippines? Must we be content with just reflecting the glory of some foreign personality instead of being the shining example of admirers from abroad?

Sometime ago there was a local movie called "Pinay Pie." The title itself suggested that it was an imitation of the American films called "American Pie," "American Pie 2" and, currently, "American Pie, The Wedding." Girls and even boys, and now including grown-ups, dye their black or gray hair all kinds of crayon colors, yellow and henna and blue and green so they can look like persons from Caucasian countries or outer space. Our youths sport hip-hop clothes from Hollywood and shave their heads because that's the "in" thing in the States. Even our Supreme Court often dances to the tune played by Chief Justice Rehnquist and his associates although we live in a different ambience and should be able to think for ourselves.

It is deplorable that while other countries are instantly identifiable for certain distinctions, the Philippines is not. The world knows about Italian art, American jazz, Russian roulette, the Spanish bullfight, England's Shakespeare, the Mardi Gras in Brazil, the Pyramid in Egypt and the Taj Mahal in India, the Great Wall of China, and other national claims to fame, including, let us not forget, the French kiss and the practical Dutch treat. For our part, we can only point to the humble yoyo, attributed to a Filipino inventor most of us do not know or have forgotten like many heroes of our race.

Why can we not exploit and memorialize the gallantry of our soldiers in Bataan and Corregidor, where we fought a desperate delaying action that turned the tide of the Pacific War? Our own Jose Rizal was a far more courageous and intellectual hero than some foreign generals who had armies to defend them and were less endowed in the arts and sciences. In the whole wide world, there is no natural wonder more breathtaking than our Mayon Volcano of the perfect cone. The fiery sunset in Manila Bay, the colorful vintas in Zamboanga and the majestic mountains in the cool regions of the North are visions to behold. And then there are the people themselves, the lithe and graceful maidens and their lean and swarthy wooers, who are beautiful proof, indeed, that we are the elect of the earth.

The whole point of this little piece is that we are a unique nation with an individuality all our own. We are or should be originals, not mere copycats. We may imitate other peoples, but only the good in them and never the wayward or the weird. Our God-given race should not be mongrelized into a poor and shameful imitation of other countries no better than we are. We have our own customs and traditions, and even idiosyncrasies, that can enrich and dignify our lives as Filipinos, not as counterfeit aliens in our native land.

God is calling

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a Pinoy who died, and went to hell. He pleaded with Satan to allow him to make one last call. Satan gave him the rates: to the United States, $20; to the United Kingdom, $15; to the Philippines, $1 only. When he asked why it was so cheap to call the Philippines, Satan responded: "It's a local call."

* * *

The call of Bartimaeus in today's Gospel (Mk. 10, 46-52) reminds us that God can—and does—call us out of whatever hell we are in. God is constantly calling each one of us to get up from the roadside and follow Him. It is so comforting to know that we have a God who not only stops for us, but also stoops down to us, to bring us out of our hell, and to lead us, whoever we are, whatever situation we are in. To God, every person is worth stopping for.

* * *

As we travel life's road, let us not forget those who are by the roadside. There are many helpless and needy people around us, not necessarily asking us to give them a ride, but just a bit of our time. Are you so much in a hurry that all you leave behind is your dust? What's your hurry, mate? If you never stop for people, you will literally leave behind only your dust when you finally return to dust.

Leave behind not just footprints but heart prints as you travel on. Slow down. Stop for people.

* * *

On life's road, there are also those who travel not only on the fast lane but also on the high lane. They believe that they are higher and more privileged than the rest. Okay. Fine. Whatever.

The problem comes when they actually believe that they are "up there" and the rest are just "down there." These are the people who "cannot be reached" and are "not available." They end up being proud or condescending.

For those who take pride in traveling first class or business class in this life: Don't forget we'll all see each other on the same immigration queue in the end. As you travel life's road, learn not only to slow down but to bend down as well.

* * *

Do you know why Bartimaeus received Jesus' call and miracle? It's because he was open and ready for it. He knew and accepted his miserable condition, but he also trusted in God's love and mercy. In other words, he was honest and humble before God.

If one is honest and humble, there is hope. If one is dishonest and proud, there can be no call, no change of heart, and no conversion. With honesty and humility, you can't go wrong.

* * *

There are people who wait until they hit "rock bottom" or reach the "deadliest deadline" before they call on God, and follow him on the road. They wait for the "last two minutes" before they change or mend their ways.

Don't wait for a tragedy or a misfortune before you stretch out your hand to God. Those who wait on the Lord and whose hands are open in prayer won't miss the Lord's call.

Do you know why you have many missed calls? It's because your line is busy, or your unit is unattended, or you have put off your cell phone to God.

* * *

It is interesting to note that the call of Bartimaeus was not a direct call, but "operator assisted." Jesus told the disciples to call Him.

Let us thank today all the people who have been used by God to help us hear and answer His call. Let us also be aware that all of us can become instruments of His call to others. May we not block His call, which is meant for us and for others. God is calling. Let us keep our lines open, and let us keep opening lines.

* * *

As a nation, let us call on the Lord to have pity on us! We have become a begging nation, sitting by the roadside because our leaders are taking us nowhere. They are all there enjoying in the first-class section, while the rest of us are cramped in the economy. What is worse is that our plane isn't taking off yet because everybody is busy trying to grab the pilot's seat. And where's the crew that is supposed to serve us? All busy with self-service!

Lord, have pity on us! *Maawa naman po kayo sa Pilipinas!* Give us good leaders. Get us out of this hell made and perpetuated for us by a few rich and powerful families, self-serving government employees and greedy politicians.

* * *

Please don't get me wrong. I have hopes for our country. In fact, we have the best politicians in the world that money can buy!

Kidding aside, I believe that somewhere down the road (soon I hope!) we as a people will, like Bartimaeus, will have the courage to rise up, receive our sight, and follow Him down the road. But that will come only if we, as a people, will humble ourselves and pray. Starting with our leaders!

* * *

All roads will lead to the cemeteries again next weekend for the All Souls' Day celebrations. Let us be reminded that all roads lead to the grave and that everything is passing in this world. The message of Jesus is clear: Get out of your hell, follow Him, so that you can go beyond the grave and let not eternity pass you by.

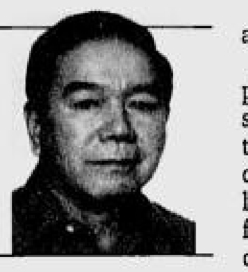
* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be always open, attentive, and responsive, for it is You calling. Amen.

GMA and Winston Garcia

REVEILLE



Ramon J. Farolan

FROM 1940 to 1945, perhaps the most heroic period in Great Britain's history, one man came to power and responsibility holding the dual positions of prime minister and minister of defense, in the nation's war effort against Nazi Germany. His task was to organize the defenses of England, inspire resistance and determination among its people and prepare for a return to the continent of Europe.

Breathing a new spirit into the government and a new resolve into the nation, he addressed the House of Commons, declaring: "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat... You ask, what is our policy? I will say: It is to wage war by sea, land and air with all our might... You ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word: Victory."

He went on by saying, "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

We also have a Winston in our midst; he is Winston Garcia, the current president of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) who has been under constant fire and criticism, not just from suffering government employees but also from his supervisors at the Department of Finance.

One of the main issues being raised against our Winston is the suspension/delay in the processing of salary loans and pension applications of GSIS members. For those in the private sector who may not be too familiar with the GSIS, this is the government institution which manages the pension fund of more than 1.5 million government workers. The moment one joins the civil service, he automatically contributes to this fund by way of monthly salary deductions which go toward supporting, among others, a pension program for the individual upon retirement. Along the way he is entitled to salary/emergency loans, usually equivalent to a month's salary or even more, at virtually no interest, with repayment spread out over a fairly liberal period of time. Incidentally, this GSIS pension fund was also used for the purchase of shares of stock in Belle Corp. during the Erap administration, as well as to purchase the painting "Parisian Life" by Luna.

For a better understanding of the problem as well as appreciation of the emotions generated by the controversy, let me say something about GSIS salary loans.

When I was a young lieutenant in the military service, we looked upon the salary loan as bridge financing for emergencies which could not be handled by our modest salaries—sickness in the family requiring hospitalization, medicines, doctors' fees, or unusual school expenses. We didn't have any savings, and regular banks wouldn't touch us with a ten-foot pole. It was the salary loan which kept us going. The other option, of course, was the friendly "5-6" money lender who was only too glad to be of service, but once in his deadly grip, it was a fight for survival.

So I can understand why our government workers are up in arms against Winston Garcia. When you suspend salary loans, it is almost like closing the only bank that is available to many of them. And I am referring to the lowly civil servant, not those in the higher ranks of government.

The same is true for pension applicants. If the retirees don't get their pensions on time, how can we expect them to continue on with their lives? Compared to some of the fabulous amounts being paid to GSIS/SSS officers, the sums in question are really peanuts.

Garcia talks about reforms that he is putting in place, such as a computerization program to streamline agency operations. But computerization should not serve as an obstacle to carrying out the mandate of the institution, which is to help the workers. He has also been protesting the failure to remit premiums by some government offices, amounting to some P40 billion over the years.

Unfortunately for Garcia, even his nominal head at the Department of Finance, Secretary Jose Camacho, has come out with a damning report on GSIS operations. Its investigation, conducted after complaints were brought out several months ago, indicated that the GSIS was guilty of delays in the processing of salary loans and pension applications of its members. Camacho refused to comment on his recommendations to the President and one can only conclude that they were not favorable to Garcia. The Palace has also been silent about the Camacho report.

The last we read on the controversy, which was put on the back-burner during the Bush visit, was that President Macapagal-Arroyo had called for a meeting with Garcia, Camacho and Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin to resolve the matter. (Read: How to save Garcia's neck.)

Winston Garcia is our average, run-of-the-mill government official. He may even be a nice guy who is simply in over his head. His greatest strength is his genealogy. He is the son of Gov. Pablo Garcia of the vote-rich province of Cebu and we are in an election campaign where every vote counts. So don't expect you-know-who to sacrifice two million Cebuano votes in the name of a more efficient government organization.

Perhaps to paraphrase his more illustrious namesake, our own Winston may have this to say: I have nothing to offer... *wala munang* salary loan... What is our policy? Collect *muna sa gobyerno*. What is our aim? To hang on to GSIS, at least till the elections in May next year.

FPJ's mistrust of pols and businessmen

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

SEN. Vicente Sotto III probably thought he was doing the opposition a favor when he proudly announced last Wednesday that actor Fernando Poe Jr. wants to consult first with the non-governmental organizations that have asked him to run for president before joining next year's presidential race.

Sotto, who was a comedian before he entered politics, said Poe wants to make sure politicians and businessmen did not organize the groups that are urging him to seek the highest office of the land.

In case he is elected, Poe wants to be beholden to the people, not to anyone else.

Until Poe denies or clarifies the statements that Sotto attributed to him, it is reasonable to assume that the country's most bankable movie star really said those words. After all, the two move in the same circles and have a common close friend in deposed President Joseph Estrada.

By insisting that politicians and businessmen should have nothing to do with his plans for the 2004 elections, Poe subtly insulted two of the most influential sectors in our society. He does not want any or both of them to play a role in his decision on whether or not to follow Estrada's footsteps in Philippine politics.

Poe came short of saying that he does not trust them. The unspoken message of his statements is, politicians and businessmen only have their interests at heart, not the people's. Hence, they should not be listened to.

His rather contemptuous attitude is surprising considering his close ties with members of the movie industry who have made a second career out of politics. What's more, in 1998, he stumped around the country with Estrada to help him in his presidential bid. The former president had publicly acknowledged that his best friend's support made a lot of difference in his victory.

Low regard

Neither is Poe a stranger in the world of business. A longtime movie producer, his companies have successfully bankrolled his acting talents and popularity into blockbusters that are the envy of other movie outfits. He is often seen in the company of popular business personalities.

Just wondering: has Poe seen or experienced something in his long years of interaction with them that has made him wary and suspicious of their thoughts and intentions?

But for non-governmental organizations, no such doubts exist. He has expressed his willingness to give in to their clamor for him to run for president if he is convinced that they are really acting on their own, not at the prodding of politicians and businessmen.

So what does this make of the politicians that Sotto represented in his talks with the movie action king? Judging from Poe's statements, they do not matter to him. They will not be a factor in his decision whether or not to throw his hat into the presidential ring. It's the people's will that counts, not those of politicians or businessmen.

Noticeably, Poe's belittling of the influence of politicians on his political plans did not elicit any adverse reaction from Sotto's colleagues in the opposition. The usually voluble politicians were unusually quiet. Had some lesser mortal done something similar, they would have been all over the media ranting and raving in protest.

They accepted Poe's brusque put-down with nary a whimper. They need him so badly for next year's elections that they're willing to overlook his irreverent remarks.

Political support

Ironically, the people whom Poe is distancing himself are the same people whose support and resources he will need in case he decides to run for president and, by the grace of God, wins.

His popularity will not suffice to bring the voters to the polling booths or ensure that the votes cast for him are properly counted. The politicians' machinery and the businessmen's money are essential ingredients for a successful campaign for a national position.

An effective run for the presidency would require a candidate's presence, through election inspectors, in the country's more than 350,000 polling places. For that and other aspects of a nationwide campaign and monitoring of election results, a candidate needs at least P1 billion. Anything less than that would make the drive for Malacañang a quixotic act.

If Poe thinks his legion of supporters can provide the funds, resources and manpower needed to assure his ascent to the presidency, then he can maintain his attitude of indifference (or hostility) toward politicians and businessmen.

In terms of name recall, Poe may be compared to Cory Aquino who in 1985 was looked up to by majority of the Filipinos as heir to the legacy of her famous husband, Ninoy Aquino. But she was wise enough to realize that her popularity would not be sufficient to bring in the votes and watch over the ballot boxes. She linked up with the anti-Marcos political forces when the late dictator gave in to pressure from the United States to hold snap elections. The rest is history.

Campaign issue

By refusing to be identified with politicians and businessmen, Poe may be laying the groundwork for the issues that he will use in case he decides to make a go for the presidency.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson has chosen "graft and corruption" as the centerpiece of his presidential ambitions. Former Education Secretary Raul Roco has "good governance" as his theme for his second attempt to get into Malacañang. President Macapagal-Arroyo is expected to harp on her achievements as justification for her continued stay in power.

Following the style of his best friend Estrada, Poe can present himself to the poor and underprivileged members of our society who comprise 80 percent of the voting population as their savior and only hope for salvation. An "us poor against them rich and powerful" campaign line would undoubtedly click with the masses. Even the left-leaning organizations will fall for this gambit.

By his acts and statements, Poe has shown he has more political savvy than many of our loud politicians. He is silent about his political plans but is reported to be discreetly moving around the country. Yet he remains in the limelight and is talked about even in social gatherings. His PR man is doing a superb job.

The intriguing question remains: Will he run in 2004 or not? Either way it goes, I'll vote for Fernando, not Poe, but Bayani, for vice president.

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Is RP up to the challenge?

COMMENTARY

Ernesto M. Pernia

> The expected rise in the global economy and the renewed dynamism of Asia, however, offer the Philippines major opportunities to turn its economy around

THE 1980s was a write-off, and the 1990s a period of unsteady growth. Now, with a nascent rebound of the world economy, a renewed dynamism in Asia and the rising potential for intra-regional trade and investment, the Philippine economy again has the opportunity to live up to its potential. Is the country this time up to the challenge?

Following the swift end to the war in Iraq and the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, recent forecasts indicate the world economy is picking up. Policymakers must remain on guard to ensure the rebound is sustained, but with the major world economies—the United States, the Euro zone, and Japan—on the mend, global economic growth is projected at 3.2 percent this year and 4.1 percent in 2004.

Developing Asia is also on an uptrend. With growth expected to accelerate from 5.3 percent this year to 6.1 percent next year, developing Asia will retain its title as the fastest-growing region in the world.

Exports and investments are the main drivers of Asia's rebound. In some countries, consumption is helping the recovery. But exports and investments are leading the way, especially in the region's fastest-growing economies, namely, China, Thailand, Vietnam and India.

Growth in the Philippines, meanwhile, is likely to slow to 4 percent this year, before climbing to 4.5 percent in 2004. Even after the rise, the economy will be performing significantly below the average growth of developing Asia as a whole. It will also lag behind the averages for Southeast Asia and South Asia.

Notwithstanding, one might still argue that overall GDP growth in the Philippines remains within "fighting range" of its Asian neighbors. On per capita terms, however, that argument would be lost.

Over the past 20 years, per capita GDP growth in the Philippines has lagged far behind that of several other Asian countries. In fact, the modest growth of the 1990s barely made up for the contraction of the 1980s, leaving average per capita incomes in the Philippines today just marginally higher than they were two decades ago.

Another worrisome aspect of the country's growth is the leading role of consumption. Investment in the Philippines has been constrained by a low savings rate owing to the dependency burden of high population growth. And an unfavorable investment climate keeps foreign direct investment low. Moreover, export growth is hampered by a heavy reliance on the electronics industry, which makes the export sector vulnerable to external market swings.

The expected rise in the global economy and the renewed dynamism of Asia, however, offer the Philippines major opportunities to turn its economy around. The country could also benefit from the growing importance of China as an export market, and the recently forged Bali Concord, under which the heads of state of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations agreed to move toward an Asean Economic Community, should provide a further boost to intra-regional trade and investment.

If it is to capitalize on these new opportunities, the Philippines must take quick action to deal with a number of shortcomings that damage the country's productivity and competitiveness, making it less attractive to investors.

The list is not new but it bears repeating:

First, and quite obviously, law and order must be in place.

Second, institutions must be strengthened and governance improved to help insulate the economy from the ravages of political conflicts and politicking, as well as to minimize corruption.

Third, the investment climate—essentially, the regulatory system and infrastructure—must be improved to attract (and retain) both foreign and domestic investment and increase the productivity of firms.

Fourth, the export sector must be diversified to make it more resilient.

Fifth, reversals in trade liberalization must be avoided. Finally, but not the least, population growth must be slowed to reduce the demographic burden, increase savings, boost investment in human capital, reduce unemployment, raise labor productivity and reduce poverty.

These measures amount to a set of mutually reinforcing policy agenda and, hence, must be carried out together. The extent to which the Philippines will succeed in capitalizing on the new opportunities to accelerate the growth of per capita incomes, generate jobs, reduce poverty and improve living standards for all its people will depend on how vigorously these agenda are implemented.

Ernesto M. Pernia is lead human development economist at the Asian Development Bank.

Mrs. Kim's children

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

BUSAN, South Korea—This scenic port city was the only major city that was spared during the Korean War of 1950. Those fleeing from the war drifted south and found sanctuary in Busan and nearby islands. After Seoul was overrun, the central government transferred to this little corner in the southern coast of the Korean peninsula. Most young people today know Busan (or Pusan) only as the site of a world-famous International Film Festival, forgetting that it was here that tens of thousands of Korean orphans were dumped during the war.

In the nearby island of Geojedo, about three hours' drive from Busan, lives a 78-year-old legendary woman known as Kim Im Soon. Koreans admire her for her toughness, singleness of purpose and courage. In the Christian community of which she is a member, she is referred to as the Korean Mother Teresa.

Kim Im Soon was a young wife, heavy with baby when the war erupted. She was then visiting her parents in a nearby town. It was too late to return to Seoul. Her father-in-law, a Protestant pastor and a prominent theologian, had been taken by the communists and brought to North Korea. She assumed that the same fate had befallen her husband. She never saw him again. A few months later, she gave birth to her daughter, and together they made their home in Geojedo. A graduate of the prestigious Ewha Woman's University, she began a teaching career on the island.

But the war was not over. Refugees continued to stream into Busan. One day Kim bumped into a former professor at Ewha who was then working in the social welfare department in Busan. He told her of seven abandoned infants in his office with nowhere to live, and begged her to take them home until they could be placed with foster families. She looked at the orphans and then at her own child, and at once she knew in her heart that these were her children too.

Kim raised her daughter and the seven orphans in a makeshift tent that quickly became known as an orphanage. Soon, more babies were being left outside her tent. Milk was her No. 1 problem. American soldiers gave her skimmed milk, but the supply was never enough and it did not come regularly. Not one to be easily discouraged, she nursed the younger infants with her own milk, and extracted soymilk from beans to feed the others. Four years later, a newly-widowed sister, Mal Soon, joined her in Geojedo, and it was then that Kim decided to completely dedicate her life to the task of caring for abandoned children.

Thus was born the center called Ai Kwang Won (Garden of Love and Light). A devout Christian, Mrs. Kim received enormous help from members of her Protestant congregation and from her former classmates at Ewha. She cleared a rented patch of land on a hillside overlooking Geoje Bay, and there she built what was to be the first of a complex of buildings for her expanding family of orphaned children. From contributions sent by her growing legion of supporters, she added a technical school for older orphans who needed to learn basic livelihood skills. By 1978, Mrs. Kim was taking care of 750 children. Not once did she turn away any child left at her door. She sought help wherever she could find it, and most of the time she got it.

Her daughter, Woo Joong, recalls that she grew up in Ai Kwang Won believing she too was an orphan. She received the same treatment as the other kids in the center. She and the seven original orphans grew up like real siblings. Her mother made sure they would all complete their education, and establish families of their own. Meanwhile, Korea's economy was growing at a phenomenal rate in the 1970s. Most of Mrs. Kim's orphans had graduated and found work in the country's booming economy. Fewer and fewer orphans were being put in her care, but an increasing number of infants born with all kinds of handicaps and defects were being left at her door. The needs of these special children were more difficult but she was undaunted. She decided it was time to convert Ai Kwang Won from an orphanage into a home and school for a new set of abandoned children: the severely physically handicapped and mentally retarded.

She was determined to give to these kids the best therapy and rehabilitation available. She built a special home for them, and called it the Dandelion House. Like wild dandelions, handicapped children, she said, were being treated by society as weeds to be pulled because they had no place in a well-ordered garden. Mrs. Kim wanted her children to be beautiful resilient weeds that would thrive in all kinds of weather. She saw beauty in the innocent eyes and faces of her wards, where others only saw aberration.

I met Mrs. Kim the other day and sat beside her at a Ramon Magsaysay Foundation conference. Later, with the other participants, I visited Ai Kwang Won. Tears welled in my eyes as I gazed at the loving way the center's volunteers and staff caressed the broken wings of their little angels. I asked Mrs. Kim how and where she drew the energy that made all this possible. Her answer was terse, but it said it all: "Love is patient."

In 1989, the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation recognized Mrs. Kim's greatness of spirit by giving her the award for Community Leadership. But she had built more than a community. Mrs. Kim rescued a whole generation, and built a nation. She continues to do so not as an act of charity, but out of love for her country and all its children. This is patriotism at its best.

* * *

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TALK of the TOWN

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Contraceptives: Who should foot the bill?

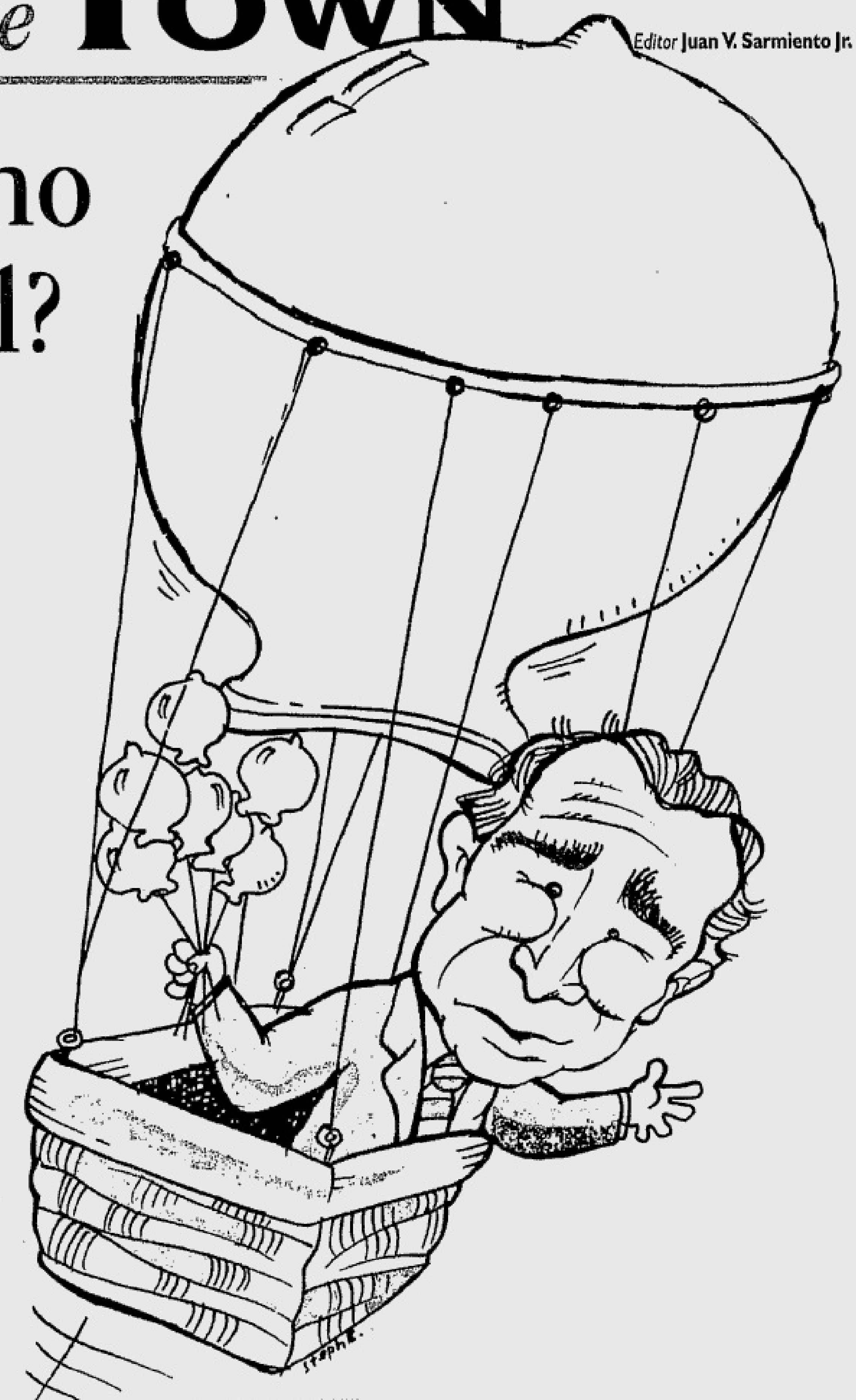

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

AN OFFICIAL of the United Nations Population Fund has warned of unwanted pregnancies, illegal abortions and rise in maternal deaths in the country after she accused the Macapagal administration of diverting P70 million for contraceptives to natural family planning.

Florence Tayzon, assistant UNPF representative in Manila, claims that the money was allocated for contraceptives under President Joseph Estrada, but his successor, President Macapagal-Arroyo, diverted it to natural family planning.

This comes as no surprise because Ms Macapagal has announced that her administration's reproductive health services will focus on natural family planning, an approach favored by the Catholic Church.

She highlighted this position when she met Pope John Paul II in Vatican last month. The President said her administration's public policies remained in "accordance with important doctrines of the Church."

Ms Macapagal's position on family planning has the support of United States President George W. Bush whose administration is reducing assistance for artificial means of family planning, while increasing military aid to the Philippines.

The last shipment of condoms donated by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) arrived in the country in March. Pill donations will be phased out in 2007, and injectables the year after. IUD will be phased out later.

This means that couples, mostly the poor, can no longer avail themselves of free contraceptives from government centers—a formula for more Filipino babies being born yearly.

Onus should be on gov't

By Peter D. Garrucho
Chair, Philippine Center for Population and Development

It is the right of every couple to decide on the number of children that they would like to have and when to have them. Government has the responsibility to help couples implement their decisions and to guarantee the universal availability of a wide array of good quality family planning methods. Whether it is the government or private sector that provides the information and services, the onus of universal availability should be on government.

Businesses may be able to provide fully or to subsidize the cost of family planning services and contraceptives of their own employees. Couples who can afford can go to private service providers and drugstores for their contraceptives. However, the poor will have to rely on the government health service system.

I understand that in the past 30 years, USAID has provided about 80 percent of the country's contraceptive supply. These were made available for free through government health centers.

Thirty years is a long time for such a USAID program. It is about time that the national government start paying for the contraceptives the poor want and need. The local government units should also allocate some funds for this purpose and legislators can help with their Priority Development Assistance Fund.

Business sector will help

By Donald G. Dee
President, Employers Confederation of the Philippines

The business sector supports initiatives for reproductive health and responsible parenthood because it makes business sense to do so. Productivity in the workplace improves if workers are not worried about unwanted pregnancies. The use of contraceptives is a matter of choice for individuals and couples.

As employers, we are required by law to provide our workers with medical facilities, which may include counseling on reproductive health and responsible parenthood, and the provision of family planning supplies and services. Some collective bargaining agreements include such provisions. Then, there are some companies that, as part of their corporate social responsibility programs, may be providing similar assistance to poor communities around their premises.

Natural family planning can free couples from costs

By Manuel M. Dayrit, M.D.
Health Secretary

The decision of USAID to "veer away from contraceptive procurement assistance" has elicited various responses from our countrymen, particularly those engaged in procreative health services and those involved in demographic concerns.

This development tends to give rise to questions such as, "What can the country do to be self-reliant in securing its own contraceptives?" To properly respond to this situation, we must see the total picture, lest we be confused or misled by the more conspicuous issues.

The restructuring of USAID involvement in our country's family planning initiatives necessitates a response from the affected sectors and entities. But can we automatically conclude that such a response is directly connected with the need to be self-reliant in contraceptives?

The discontinuance of USAID's supply of contraceptives to government does not mean the total collapse of the country's family planning efforts.

It means that people who wish to use contraceptives just have to find other sources of free supply, or buy their own supply in drugstores. Actually, many people do buy their own contraceptives, and USAID-supplied inventories in government facilities are often underutilized.

Affordability

Of course, the affordability of these products is crucial. The high cost of contraceptives is among the main concerns of poor families when deciding on what family planning method to adopt. When properly understood and lived out, natural family planning relieves Filipinos of having to pay for contraceptives and of expenses that may be incurred in case of side effects, illnesses and complications arising from their use.

In fact, the expenses a couple needs to worry about when practicing natural family planning are just the paper and pens needed to chart their fertility, and the thermometer if they choose to apply the basal body temperature, or the sympto-thermal method.

Thus, the issue of "self-reliance" raised in relation to the restructured USAID support causes us to face the greater issue of empowerment, not only of our country's public health system, but also of each concerned family.

While certain institutions may have no qualms about being wholly dependent on the decisions of foreign powers, can we justly subject our Filipino families to such bondage?

Liberation

Informing families that they may no longer avail themselves of free contraceptives from government facilities need not be interpreted as abandonment. It can, in fact, be viewed as liberation.

Married couples are now prompted to be aware of their own fertility and to behave accordingly so they may practice responsible parenthood without high costs, anxiety, fear of side effects, and the many other social and interpersonal difficulties that plague married couples who resort to contraception or sterilization to plan their families. This is how natural family planning becomes liberating.

The question we should ask, therefore, is "What can Filipino families do, now that the pipeline for free contraceptives is being cut?"

Seeking other sources for contraceptives is only one of the answers. Practicing responsible parenthood through natural family planning is another.

Uphold Church-State separation

By Carolina S. Ruiz-Austria
Convenor, Reproductive Health Advocacy Network

Ensuring access to quality contraceptive supply is only one aspect of the bigger issue of empowering Filipinos to exercise their reproductive health options so as to improve their quality of life. To be self-reliant in contraceptives, three things have to happen:

First. Government must uphold the constitutional principle of the separation of Church and State. The phasing out of foreign support for contraceptive supply could have been addressed by using part of the DOH budget to manage any gaps.

The President's policy pronouncements threw contraceptive security out the window. In July 2002, she announced that there would be no budget for artificial contraception. The DOH is in fact pouring all its money into the natural family planning method.

A family planning program tailored to suit the Catholic hierarchy, which frowns on artificial contraception, violates the Constitution.

Catholic doctrine requires no less than abstinence as the only acceptable family planning method. Nothing is wrong with this belief as religious freedom gives Filipinos the choice to exercise their religious beliefs. But then the same Constitution abhors the imposition of a "state religion." In fact, the majority of Catholic Filipinos prefer the freedom to select their family planning method. Public opinion polls consistently confirm this sentiment.

Second. Laws must be passed to ensure these rights to reproductive health and freedom. A national law would help rationalize policy and prevent the executive department from constantly changing policy. Local laws can also ensure universal access to safe methods of artificial contraception.

Third. Government and Philippine society must recognize and respect the rights of women. Central to making reproductive health options available and accessible is the concept of women's empowerment to make those decisions. This includes challenging concepts of women's sexuality, sexual pleasure and morality.

Maternal health and well being are vital components of women's health, just as freedom from violence and discrimination is. Contraceptives are useless if they are not used or sought in the context of free and informed choice and in the exercise of rights and entitlements, free from violence and discrimination.

Reach understanding with Church

By Victor E. Agbayani
Pangasinan Governor

Forging an active partnership with the Church in areas of common agreement to address our population problem was a major policy shift in the population management program of Pangasinan, during my first term as governor (1998-2001). A goal, shared by many governments and the Church, is to bridge the gap between rich and poor, raise the standard of living and the quality of life of the people.

Alleviating poverty is a constant struggle of stretching and generating resources for the basic needs of our people. But even as we struggle to provide for these, the population continues to grow. The demand for services also continues to increase, thus further straining our resources.

If development were a coin, one side would be income and food security and the provision of basic needs. The other would be population management. If we don't manage our population, we will be overwhelmed by the demand for basic services.

In our country, a sustainable population management program is one that is designed in the Philippine context. In the battle against poverty, through population management, our chances of success will be much greater if the Church is our active ally.

USAID's policy shift from commodity procurement to other forms of support will have a great impact on the population management of our province. What we want to do is prepare our local government units and the people for this eventuality. Thus, there is the Pangasinan initiative toward self-reliance.

But we have no illusions about our efforts. We know how difficult it is to implement this policy shift, let alone come up with the required financial resources particularly the procurement of contraceptives for the program. Pangasinan will also adopt the policy that for every peso it allocates to cover the commodity support reduction, it will put up a counterpart to support natural family planning.

The commodity support reduction will affect the whole country. Likewise, the high unmet need for family planning services is a national experience. So the Department of Health must play a strong role and adopt an equally strong policy. I do not think it is wise to let the local government units face this problem alone.

Legislation key to contraceptive security

By Roberto M. Ador
Executive Director
Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development

Without comprehensive laws to address the country's population and reproductive health problems, the country will not be able to achieve contraceptive security.

I remember that sometime last year, a number of journalists asked President Macapagal-Arroyo about her views on the USAID decision to withdraw contraceptive donation to the Philippines. When one journalist asked who should fill the gap in contraceptive supply, the President jokingly answered "NGOs!"

However, the issue of contraceptive supply is no joking matter. The country's 49.5 percent contraceptive prevalence rate is already low as it is, compared with our Asian neighbors. Of this, 70.1 percent or 4 million women depend on the government for their supply.

Of course, we cannot disregard the fact that there are two million married Filipino women who wish to plan their pregnancies but are not using any form of family planning. One reason is the lack of the means to do so. And with the impending shortfall in the supply of free contraceptives, we expect this number to increase.

The number of Filipinos who depend on the government for their contraceptives is just too enormous to be ignored.

That encounter with the President is just one of many instances that illustrate the administration's "flip-flopping" on the issue. We have seen this flip-flopping in several administrations. Why? Because we do not have a law to ensure that funds are allocated, and programs and services are provided to the people to address population and reproductive health issues, unimpeded by the religious and political biases of the administration.

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FIRST IN PAMPANGA

Election exec killed in Angeles City

ANGELES CITY—The deputy election officer of this city was shot and killed by a lone gunman on Friday night, the first election-related violence in Pampanga in the run up to the May 2004 elections.

Lawyer Cora Jane Baleros, chief of the Commission on Elections in the city, believed she was the target of the assassin and not her deputy, Ponciano Palo, 58.

"I was the target," she told the INQUIRER in an interview held in a safehouse where policemen had secured her and three other election supervisors after Palo was killed in his house at the L and S Subdivision here.

Baleros and other Comelec employees were at Palo's house during the attack.

Palo was standing in front of Baleros and received the shot that might have been intended for her. The bullet hit the victim's right back and pierced through his left armpit, a police report said.

Baleros said she was not able to see the assailant from the garden where Palo prepared dinner for his visitors. "All we heard was a gunshot," she said.

Baleros did not name any suspect. She said she could not think of other motives in the murder of Palo, whom she described as "decent" and "clean."

The Comelec officials were in Palo's house on Friday to discuss the transfer of the venue for the voters' registration in the city.

Earlier, the camps of Pampanga Rep. Francis Nepomuceno and Mayor Carmelo Lazatin had a dispute over the registration venue.

The Angeles Electric Corp. cut off electric supply at City Hall and the city library on Thursday due to unpaid bills amounting to P6.3 million since last year.

This, Baleros said, prompted her office to find an alternative location to continue the registration up to Oct. 31.

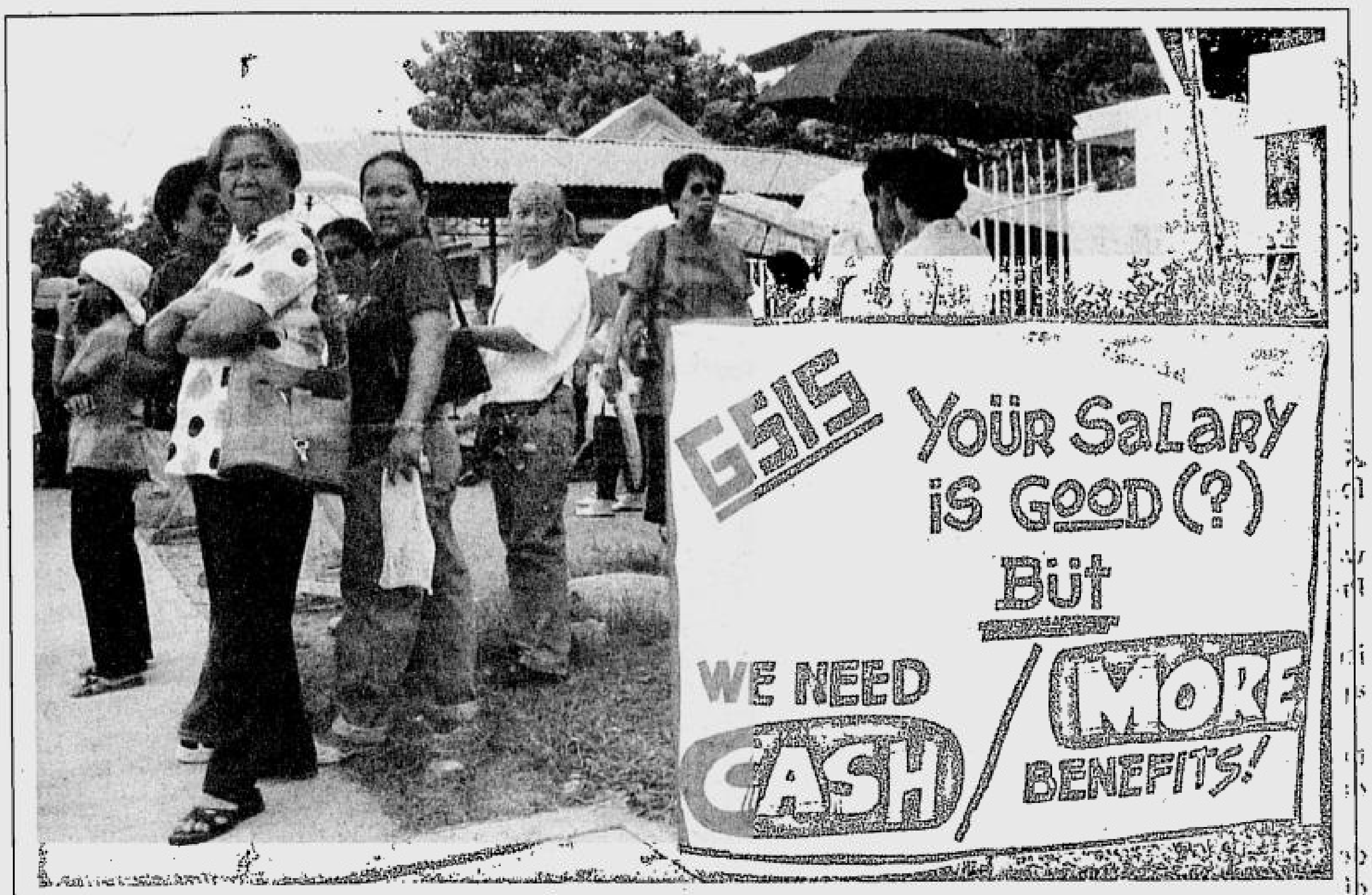
Initially, Baleros said her office proposed to install two data capture machines at the Gabaldon Elementary School and two at the Nepo Mall.

On Friday, they consulted the Comelec office in Manila on this issue and proceeded to Palo's home to make final arrangements in setting up all the four machines in a government center in Barangay Balibago.

Baleros said Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos had instructed the city's election team not to report for work yet. She said she turned down the recommendation to be reassigned elsewhere.

"They may kill me and my colleagues but the election will push through. We will not leave. We will not give pleasure to the killer of Mr. Palo or to those who are threatening us," she said.

In the City of San Fernando where Palo's body was taken for autopsy, one of the victim's daughters said her father went against their wish to retire this December. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*


GSIS
YOUR SALARY IS GOOD(?)
BUT
WE NEED CASH / MORE BENEFITS!

BING GONZALES

WHAT WE NEED
Government workers, who are demanding the resignation of GSIS president Winston Garcia, say it all in this placard they planted in front of the GSIS office in Davao City.

Family of suspected cattle rustler massacred

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—A rift within a criminal group said to be behind the series of cattle rustling in Batangas and Laguna led to the gruesome murder of one of its supposed leaders and two of his family members in Barangay Malaking Pulo in Tanauan City, Batangas on Friday night.

Batangas police director Senior Supt. Rodolfo Magtibay identified the slain victims as farmer Romulo Tuiza, 34, a suspected member of a syndicate involved in stealing carabaos and cows in the area; his wife Maricel, 27; and daughter Rochelle, 3.

Magtibay said the victims died of numerous bullet wounds in their bodies.

Police found 37 empty shells from an M16 armalite rifle at the crime scene.

Tuiza's 7-year-old son George survived the massacre. Residents of the neighborhood rushed George to the nearby Corachea Hospital and is now declared out of danger.

Police said the family was watching the television and had just finished their dinner at around 7 p.m. when two unidentified armed men alighted from a van and walked towards the victim's house.

Witnesses told police that they got frightened after hearing several gunshots. When they went to check where the shots were coming from, they saw the suspects shooting at the Tuizas and peppering the house with bullets.

One of the residents identified one of the assailants as a certain Juanito Rio, the older Tuiza's supposed cohort in their illegal activity. The other suspect is said to be Rios' younger brother. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Soldiers capture 8 RHB rebs

CAMP NAKAR, Lucena City—At least eight suspected communist rebels tasked to organize the Manobo tribe in the hinterlands of Rizal province were captured by the military in Rodriguez town Monday afternoon.

In a belated report, patrolling soldiers from the Army's 1st Infantry Battalion led by 2Lt. Nante Occiano chanced upon the armed rebels said to belong to the Rebolusyonaryong Hukbong Bayan after civilians tipped them of the rebels' presence in Barangay Puray.

Without firing a single shot, the government troops were able to encircle the surprised rebels who all surrendered peacefully. Col. Vergilio Espinelli, battalion commander, identified the captured rebels as Marcelino San Jose, Agapito Defiesta, Ebot Ambangan, Eduardo San Jose, Romeo Aquino, Terio Ongreano, Romeo Lantawan and Allan Mampair.

The military seized a cal. 45 revolver, three cal. 38 and a Super 38 rifle, bladed weapons and documents that allegedly contain names of organization with links to the RHB.

The report disclosed that the suspected rebels allegedly admitted that they were new recruits ordered to organize the Manobo folk. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

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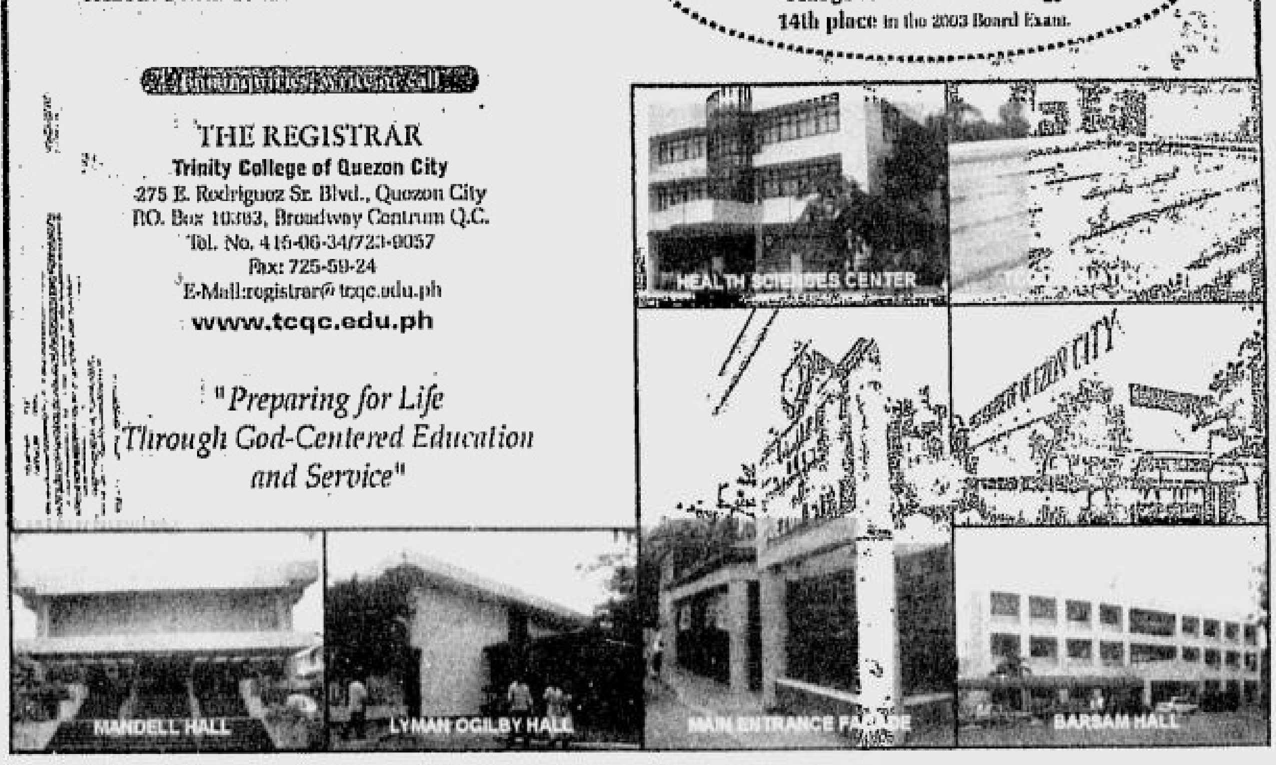

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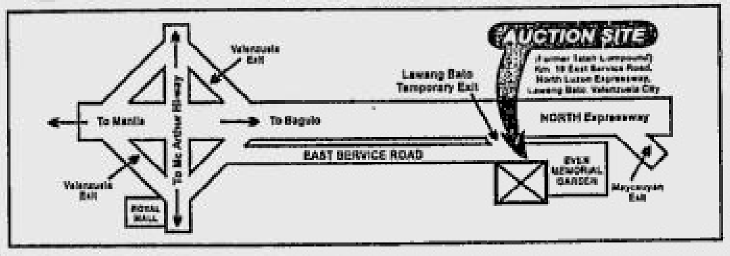

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4 killed as truck hits 'kuliglig'

STA. CRUZ, Ilocos Sur—Four persons were killed while two others were hurt Thursday night when a truck hit a *kuliglig* (farm trailer) in Barangay Mantanas here, police said.

Police identified the fatalities as Dominador Davalos, 28, the trailer's driver; Angelito Borja, 33; John John Jarunel and Benigno Asuncion, 43, all of Barangay Dili.

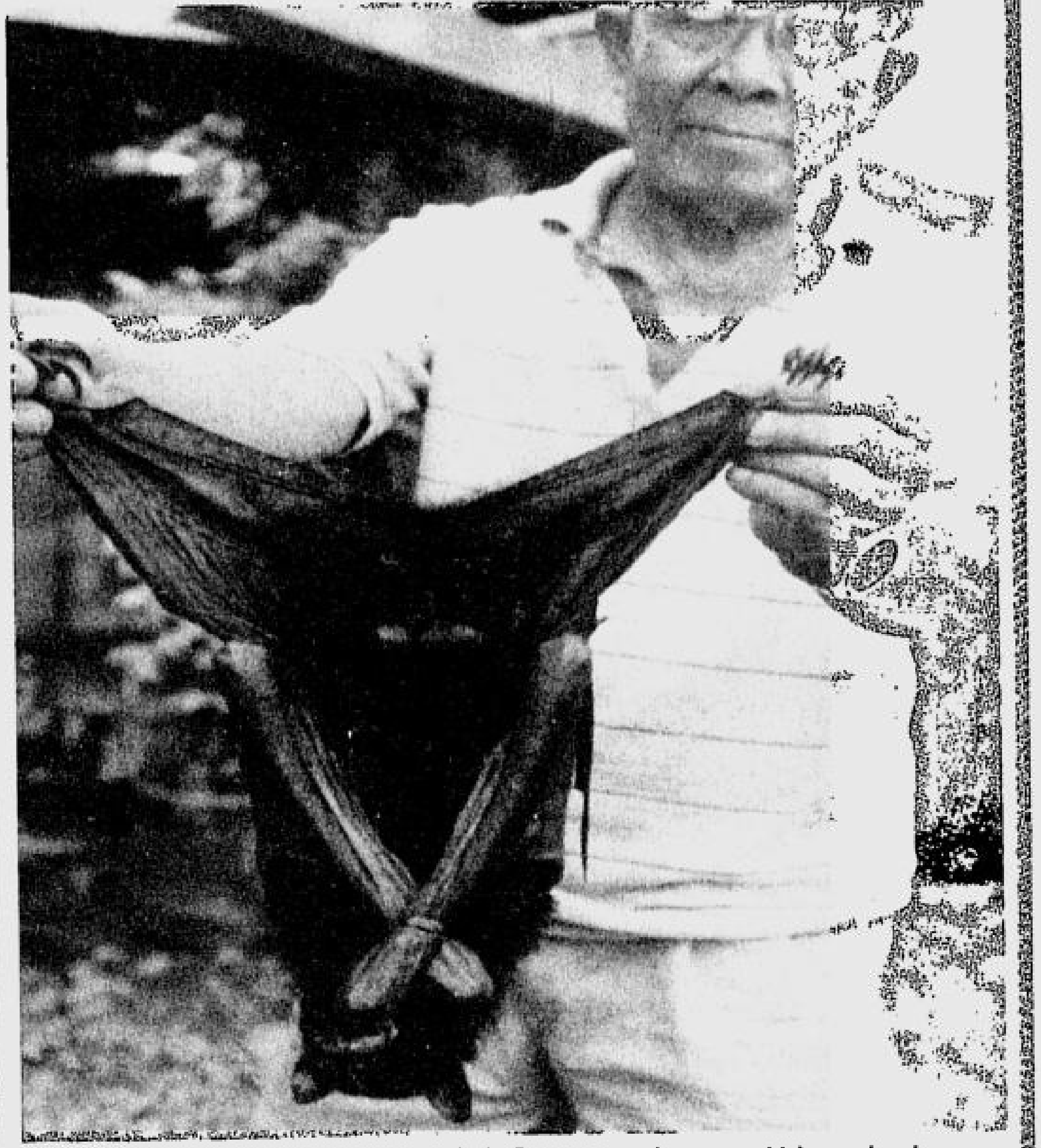
Two other passengers, Celso Jarunel, 54, and George Jinar, 40, were hurt.

Police said the group was travelling along the Mantanas Bridge when a six-wheel truck, driven by Nestor Manuel, 47, of Quirino, bumped the rear end of the trailer. The victims were thrown off the trailer due to the impact of the collision.

Police said the truck driver failed to notice the *kuliglig* as the latter did not have rear reflectors.

Manuel said he was cruising at about 40 kilometers per hour when he suddenly noticed that the *kuliglig* was in front of him.

He tried to overtake it but a speeding van in the opposite lane forced him to remain on his lane. He said he stepped on the truck's brakes but still hit the *kuliglig*. ***Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***



FROM wooden cages, cat-sized bats caught in Cagayan province are sold, burned and butchered for food in Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya in defiance of a DENR order banning the selling of wildlife species in the country. BEN MOSES EBREO

Bats sell like hotcakes in Cagayan Valley

By Ben Moses Ebreo
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAMBANG, Nueva Vizcaya—Bat trappers and sellers continue to defy Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun's order banning the selling of wildlife species in the country as fruit bats in various sizes have proliferated in public markets and sidewalks in this town.

Last week, Gozun ordered 16 regional directors of DENR to continue monitoring restaurants serving wildlife species. Commonly known here as *paniki*, fruit bats have attracted many buyers because of their exotic value and rarity.

Gozun also ordered the directors to apprise restaurant owners of the penalties for violating laws and regulations on the protection of Philippine wildlife.

Bats, as big as cats, that are caught in the forests of Cagayan and Nueva Vizcaya are being transported and sold here weekly.

Larger bats are sold at P100 apiece while medium-sized bats sell for P100 for three pieces.

On Oct. 18, Rudy, a bat hunter, arrived in Barangay Banggot here from a hunting trip in Tuguegarao City with close to 200 bats of various sizes inside three wooden cages.

It was Saturday, a market day in this town, and members of the Isinai tribe came to check Rudy's bats at a house that served as a drop-off point for his catch.

Rudy said he comes to town almost every week with his catch because the bat-trapping season has started in the region.

"Bats are easy to sell here because they are delicious and bat eating is part of the culture of Isinai," he said.

Bats, also known as *kaliputo*, are one of the delicacies of the Isinai tribe. These are cooked as *pulutan* (appetizers) or viand.

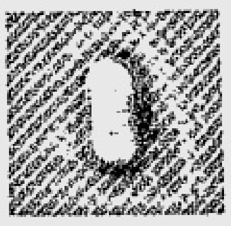
From July to December, bat trapping, called *salikap*, becomes a local activity. Bats are caught while they gather around fruit trees to feed.

Spotting for their routes, bat trappers, armed with nets and rice sacks, scour the forests with nets. Bats are trapped as they fly from one tree to another.

Known sources of fruit bats in this town are the villages of Abinganan, Mabuslo and Labni and some villages in Kasibu and Quezon towns.

Fruit trees that serve as their food sanctuaries are guava, *saraysa*, *balete*, *tibig* and *kapasanglay* or cotton trees.

Ely Pinaroc, an Isinai, said bats are good sources of protein and a favorite food of local villagers.



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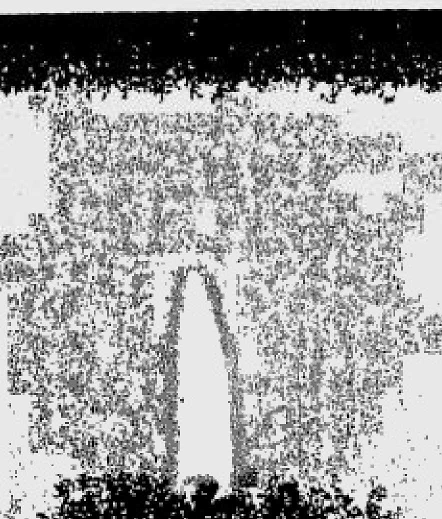

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INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Barely surviving in their ancestral land

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
Tampakan, South Cotabato

PUSHED toward the edge of abject poverty, the natives have no other recourse but to bite the bullet just to survive.

The jungle, their dwelling place and hunting ground since time immemorial, is, just like them, barely surviving.

Soon, their traditional source of food will be lost. There will be no more edible wild plants to pick, no more wild animals to hunt.

Male members of the tribe have returned to combing every nook of the balding mountains in search for food.

Back home, their beloved families try to fight off the throes of unwanted hunger. While waiting for their return, the wives keep themselves busy digging up the mountain slope scouring for root crops just to feed their children, most of them undernourished, if not malnourished.

The life of Narcing Guiway, a 40-year-old hunter, living in the far-flung Crossing 5, Barangay Danlag, Tampakan, is a typical example.

Crossing 5 can be reached by a two-hour ride on a single motorcycle locally known as *habal-habal*.

The INQUIRER met Guiway on the way up to Sitio Mangise, a mountain community in Barangay Danlag. He was alone in the forest, hunting for wild animals.

"Before, it was better because the forest was rich. There were fruits and animals. Today, if we hunt, sometimes for three days, we would be lucky if we get something," he lamented.

Guiway, a father to a brood of six, went home empty-handed after a day's hunt. He was dead tired and famished, but he was thinking not of himself but of his wife and children.

"My family expects me to bring something when I come home," said the dejected hunter.

His family could hardly eat three square meals a day. So, he and his wife content themselves by having a single meal a day. Whatever is left during lunch time is being reserved for their kids' next meal. For several months now, Narcing and his family subsist on boiled sweet potato.

On the way to Sitio Mangise, which is about 1,500 meters above sea level, one can see patches of kaingin dotting the mountain ridges and slopes.

Kaingin

Viray Guisan, 32, said a logging firm was formerly operating in the area, but the lowlanders, not the natives, were hired as guards and workers.

Guisan claimed that logging concessionaires, including illegal loggers from the lowlands have been exploiting the resources in their ancestral land but the benefits have never trickled down to the tribal residents.

They still live in decrepit huts and their children continue to grope in the dark caves of ignorance. Their miserable condition has changed, not for the better but for worse.

The natives were even barred from hunting and gathering wild fruits or root crops within the concession areas.

They retreated deeper into the forest. Foods dwindled as their old, familiar hunting ground and farmlands shrunk.

They neither indulge in wild imaginings nor do they have grandiose dreams for themselves and their children. All they want is mere survival.

Sad to note they are deprived even of their right to survive.

From traditional hunting, the natives resorted to kaingin, an environmentally destructive farming technique.

"We don't have any other means of subsistence so we have to go back to farming," Guisan said.

Christian settlers have also resorted to kaingin after the logging firms withdrew from the area.

But unlike the settlers, the B'laan and other tribal groups have their own indigenous farming techniques, which mitigate ecological destruction.

In the past, slash-and-burn agriculture worked well even if done over a wide area due to traditional but sustainable farming techniques of the natives.

Now, it can no longer be practiced in the same degree due to dwindling forest resources and an increase in lumad population.

Slaves

The history of lumads in the country is replete with stories about their struggle for survival.

NARCING Guiway, a hunter in Sitio Mangise in Barangay Danlag. AQUILES ZONIO

The government showed interest in their area only when there are natural or mineral resources to exploit. The intruders are the ones benefited, the natives remain slaves right in their ancestral land.

A foreign-owned mining company entered in Barangay Danlag as early as 1991.

This mountain village is one among the areas where the firm was planning to conduct open pit mining to extract gold and copper deposits.

The natives were given dole-outs and token jobs to earn their trust.

Yet, instant and easy money had been proven to be a bane to indigenous communities.

What they did was destroy the communities' harmony and unity instead of improving their lot.

The mining firm managed to enter into formal agreements with the natives.

But were they given the chance to develop a meaningful understanding of mining before they were made to sign the documents?

Dalina Samling, a tribal chieftain in Danlag, said as far as the natives are concerned, there was no such thing as real and informed consent to mining.

Her appeal was to have pity and compassion instead of blaming the lumad.

Absolutely nothing in their experience as subsistence farmers and hunters had prepared them to deal with a powerful and influential enemy.

The Tampakan Mineral Resource Corp. (TMRC), which bought the Financial Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA) of the Western Mining Corp., pledged to help alleviate the miserable plight of the affected indigenous communities.

It assured the residents that steps are being undertaken to minimize the environmental and social impacts of the project on the area.

CBFM benefits

Tribal residents of Danlag and adjacent villages gave up their traditional means of livelihood when Danlag B'laan Multi-Purpose Cooperatives' (DBMPC) application for a Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA) was approved on June 2000 by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

They were employed by the cooperative as haulers and loaders. As coop members, they themselves were part owners, not slaves.

The cooperative's CBFM lease area covers 4,000 hectares of land straddling four tribal villages of Danlag, Pula Bato, Sbanken and Bong Mal.

As CBFMA holder, the cooperative is authorized to harvest forest products within the area, which was also awarded to them by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) through the issuance of the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claims (CADC).

Through the CBFMA, B'laan residents in the area, for the first time in their lives, were able to partake of the forest resources taken out from their ancestral lands.

Guisan said his life was quite better when the cooperative was still allowed to harvest forest products in the area.

He said the CBFMA gave them not necessarily comfort but at least a momentary lull from hunger. From the usual native stuff like corn, sweet potato and wild yam served during mealtime in their dining table, what can be seen are canned sardines, loaf bread and softdrinks.

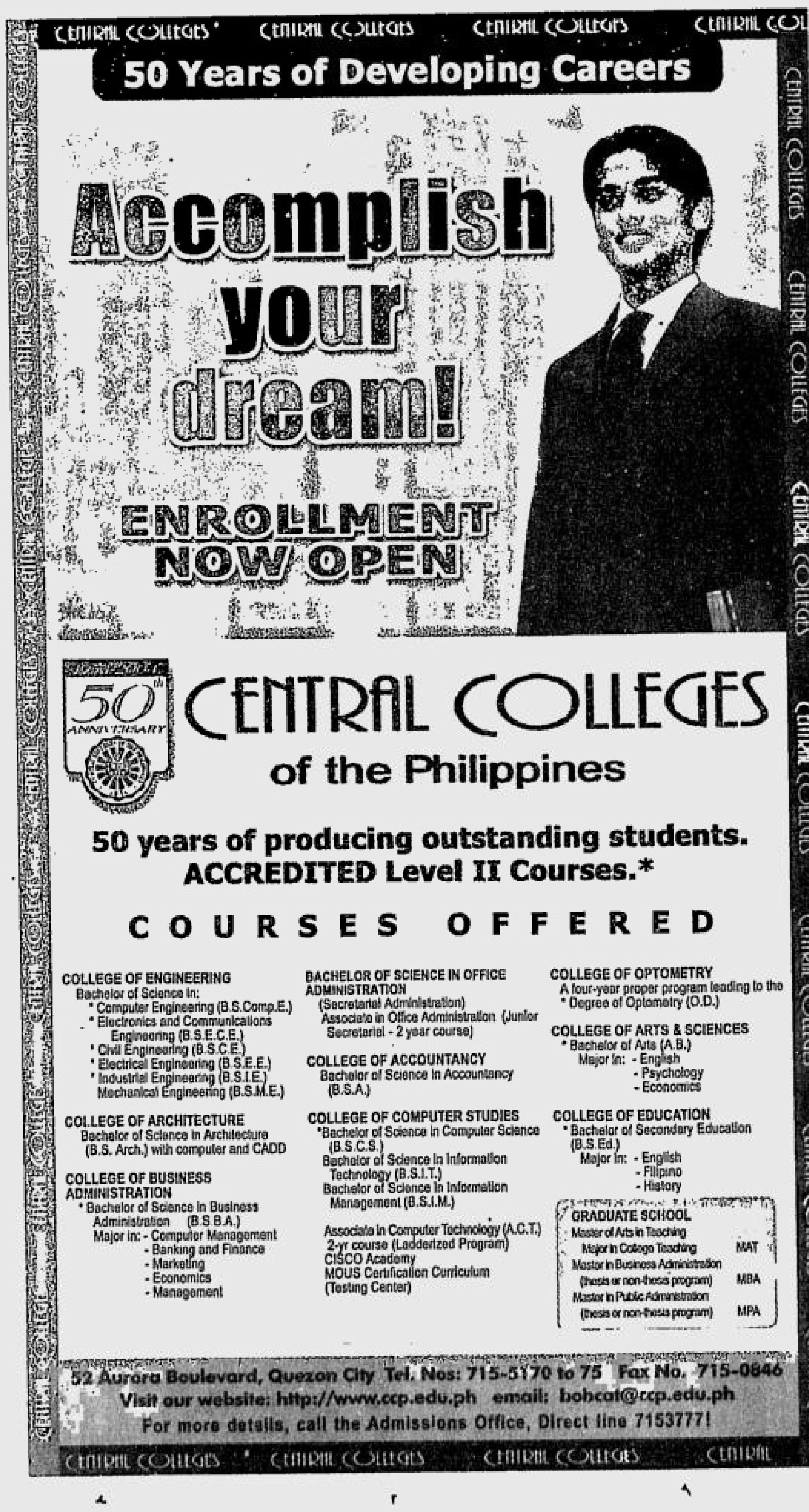
Women buy new clothes while men smoke branded cigars.

But now, Guisan said, they are lucky if they could eat one decent meal a day. They depend largely on root crops to survive.

Their ordeal, he said, started when DENR Secretary Elisea Gozun issued in January a suspension order on resource use permit of all CBFMA holders nationwide.

The coop stopped gathering salvaged trees from the CBFMA area.

As a result, some 1,600 cooperative members, most of them, if not all, B'laans, lost their main source of livelihood.



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History sails in Lawig Balanghai

By Ramon Jorge Sarabosing
Butuan City

FOR THE BUTUAN Arts Council (BAC), theater, other than its function as entertainment, is an instrument of education. And for a city like Butuan, which is positioning itself as a historic destination in Mindanao in the area of tourism and culture, this is a valuable tool.

More so, the artists think, when you have a generation of young people who don't know anything about their history.

Though there are local historic landmarks that attest to its historicity, there are no oral or printed traditional expressions that engrave the hearts of the people around and knowledgeable of their past.

"A past that we can look back and proudly cherish our ancestral roots," said stage director Richard Belar.

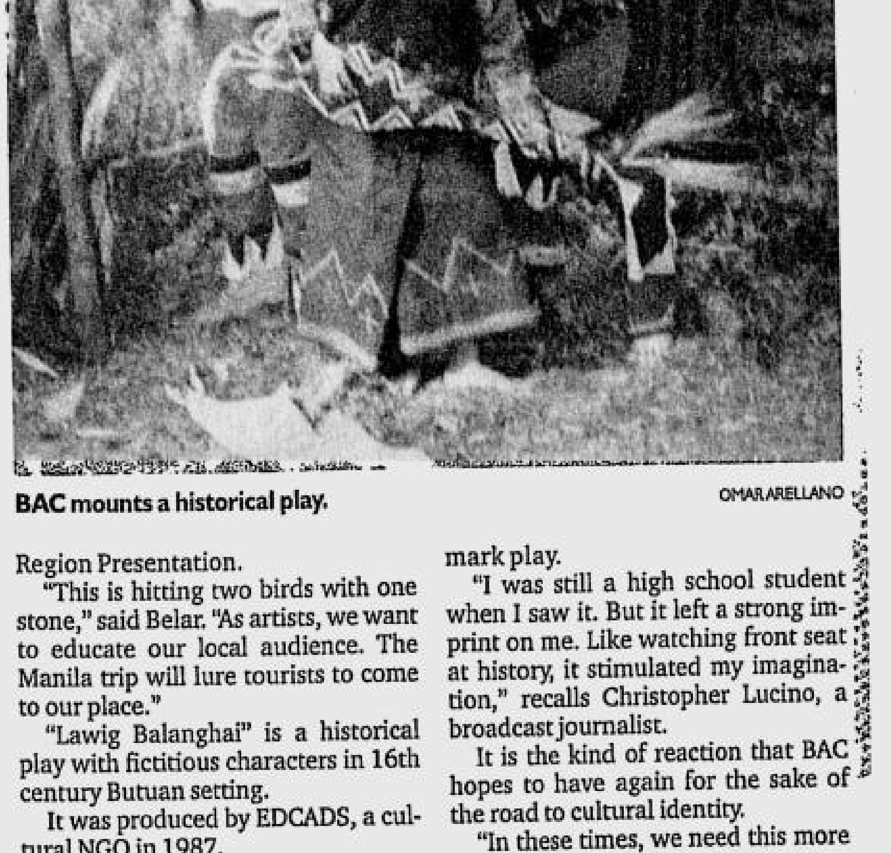
For some time, BAC, an organization of professional art practitioners, has on its hands a few historical materials that they hope to produce some time.

One of those is the union of a local maiden to a visiting Brunei King in the 14th century. The marriage sired a heir who became a king.

"Other than a love story, it touches the cultural picture among Asians of that time," said Ruth Buna-Requierme, president of BAC.

For now, BAC has its hands full in remounting a major historical play that was first produced in 1987. The play, "Lawig Balanghai" is inspired from the ancient Butuan boat considered the oldest ocean-crossing vessel in Southeast Asia.

The musical, which is produced in partnership with the city government and the City Tourism Council, will be shown on Nov. 5, 6, 7, and will "sail" to Intramuros, Manila on Nov. 21 to 24 for DOT's Best of the Region Presentation.



BAC mounts a historical play. OMAR ARELLANO

"This is hitting two birds with one stone," said Belar. "As artists, we want to educate our local audience. The Manila trip will lure tourists to come to our place."

"Lawig Balanghai" is a historical play with fictitious characters in 16th century Butuan setting.

It was produced by EDCADS, a cultural NGO in 1987.

The play is written by poet and playwright Fe Remotigue and was directed by Nestor Horfilla, NCCA national chair for dramatic arts.

It toured major cities of Luzon a year after, courtesy of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP).

In 1994, it was remounted again in time for *Mindulani* (Mindanao Theater Festival) where it was named one of Mindanao's landmark play.

"I was still a high school student when I saw it. But it left a strong imprint on me. Like watching front seat at history, it stimulated my imagination," recalls Christopher Lucino, a broadcast journalist.

It is the kind of reaction that BAC hopes to have again for the sake of the road to cultural identity.

"In these times, we need this more than ever," said Requierme.

For Belar, who is the current mounting director, what is important is the connection.

"Our people should have a strong historical grounding. All efforts to promote a historic place without the people's role and participation will fall flat. We start by education and theater can lead the way."

FPJ came, he left and said nothing

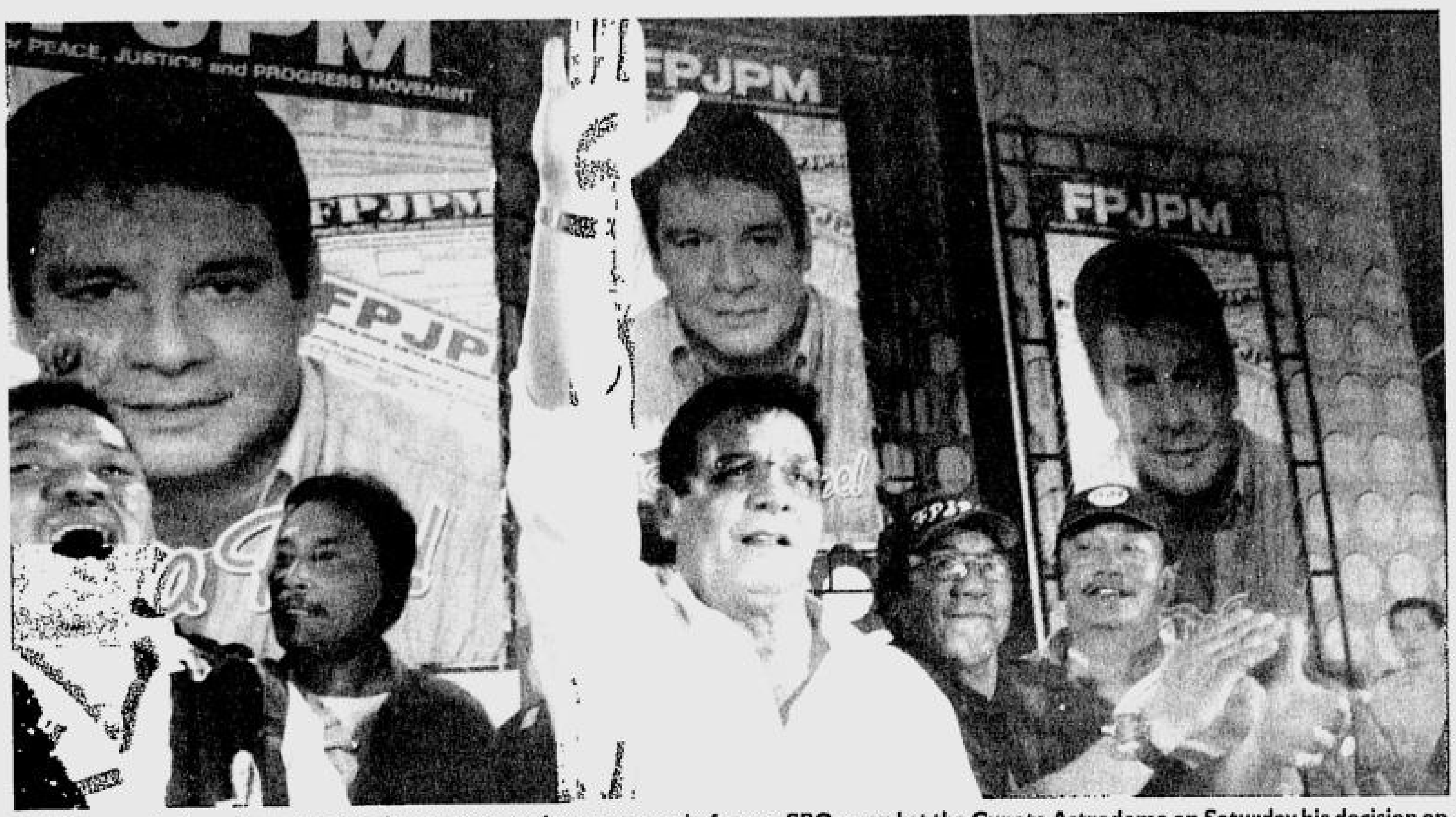
From page A1

When he stepped on to the stage, the mob followed him and tried to crowd him out.

He started shaking the hands of those near the stage but movie stunt men who were acting as marshals started shoving and pushing the photographers and fans off stage.

The crowd—mothers with toddlers in tow, housewives, graying grandfathers, many of them wearing shorts, t-shirts and flip-flops—was estimated by police at between 9,000 and 12,000.

They were treated to song-and-dance numbers punctuated with film clips on prominent movie-stars-turned-politicians here and abroad, like California governor Arnold Schwartzenegger, former Carmel mayor Clint Eastwood and Batangas mayor Vilma Santos.



GREAT expectations: Fernando Poe Jr. was expected to announce before an SRO crowd at the Cuneta Astrodome on Saturday his decision on whether he would throw his hat into the presidential ring but didn't. The suspense continues. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

'Sya na Poe'

Two giant screens showed Poe's old films while a streamer displayed inside the stadium read: "Run FPJ Run! You are the real eagle who can whisk away the opportunists."

Other banners said: "*Sya na Poe*(He's the one), a pun on his name.

A video clip of comedian Herbert Bautista showed the Quezon City vice mayor endorsing Poe's supposed business acumen.

Newspaper columnist Herman Tiu Laurel emceed the affair, with another television personality Rina Reyes and former action star Tony Ferrer.

Jude Estrada, the younger son of jailed ex-President Estrada, Poe's best friend who is believed to be strongly pressuring Poe to run, arrived at about 4 p.m. and was whisked off to a room.

Serious opponent

The 63-year-old Poe, with no background in economics and politics, is seen by analysts as a serious opponent for President Macapagal-Arroyo, although some believe he is tainted by his close friendship with Estrada who is on trial on corruption charges.

Opposition legislators have said they are considering drafting Poe—widely known to his legions of fans as "FPJ" and "Da King," short for "King of Philippine Movies"—as their candidate in the 2004 national elections.

The peso has fallen to a near two-month low of P55.40 to the United States dollar on Friday, partly due to worries that the hugely popular Poe might agree to be the opposition standard bearer in May.

But this did not appear to concern the thousands of Poe fans who thronged the sports stadium yesterday.

"With all the support he is getting, maybe he will agree to run," said Louie Prado, 25, pointing at the packed stadium.

'Good man'

"We want change in government. Corruption is happening left and right," said 55-year-old Marcelino Motarte, who claims to be a leader of a group which counts former Muslim rebels and communist guerillas among its members.

Ace Manalang, a former mayor of Tarlac, said he came because he knew Poe to be a good man who would be a good president. He said he has met Poe and believes even his inexperience would work better for the people.

"I am here to support those who want our beloved friend FPJ ... They know he is a good man," said Ferrer.

Campaign vehicle

The FPJPM is widely believed to be the campaign vehicle for Poe's candidacy.

But Melvin Sabate, the group's vice president for media, said they were merely celebrating their first anniversary and that it should be shown as such.

Asked before Poe made his appearance whether the actor would announce his candidacy, Sabate said that it might be done "anytime."

Some officers of the FPJPM said they did not know Poe personally but felt he would be good for the country.

The organization is the brainchild of Cadsawan, a trader whom Sabate said he met at a forum called by Tiu-Laurel in which Cadsawan told the group that he wanted Poe for president.

Sabate, who said he was a sales agent from Montalban, said the forum occurred Aug. 20, 2003, a week before Poe's birthday.

On Aug. 20, Poe was seen emerging from a visit to the Veterans Memorial Hospital suite of the jailed Estrada. Asked by reporters if he would run for President, Poe said he would run not to free one man but if the people want him.

This was the spark that prompted the group to start its signature campaign that has now ballooned into 2 million signatures, Sabate said.

The group took the campaign to the provinces where Cadsawan claims the people responded in droves.

He said most of the signatories came from people in Metro Manila, Southern Tagalog and Pangasinan.

Voluntary

"This is purely voluntary, we do not solicit money and the money spent for the affair came from contributions and coordinators," Sabate said.

For yesterday's affair, Sabate said the group spent only about P100,000 and that the drinks and sandwiches came from volunteers.

Cadsawan said that he met with Poe on Oct. 21 and that he believes that Poe will run.

He said they talked for about an hour.

"He told me to tell the people they will not have long [to wait]. He said he would make an announcement shortly," Cadsawan said.

Defending idol

Almost simultaneously with the Cuneta Astrodrome affair, another group backing a Poe candidacy was busy defending their idol against business analysts blaming his rumored political bid for the peso's depreciation the past few days.

"Whenever the peso appreciates, they give the credit to Gloria [President Macapagal-Arroyo], but whenever it drops, they look for scapegoats and point to FPJ," said lawyer Jules Raboca, secretary general of the Freedom, Peace and Justice Movement, or the FPJ Movement.

"Why are they blaming someone who's not yet in the government, a private individual who has no part in managing our economy?" Raboca said at a media forum at the Sulo hotel yesterday.

Raboca clarified that his group was separate from the FPJPM.

Blame GMA

The group's chair, Manny Portes, added that if anyone should take the blame, it should be the sitting President.

"As US President Harry Truman once said: 'The buck stops here.' [The President] should take responsibility," Portes said.

"We don't know who are those economic analysts who are making such connections," he added.

Portes noted that about four days before the INQUIRER came out with stories on the mounting pressure on Poe to run, "the Dow Jones dropped by 141 points."

Its effects on global currency trading, and not the news on Poe's possible candidacy, could be the more credible factor behind the peso's recent weakness, he said.

Portes said Jose Pardo, who was Estrada's finance secretary, would be one of Poe's economic advisers.

With a report from Volt Contreras

Chopsticks cause arthritis, says study

From page A1

University School of Medicine and colleagues interviewed 2,507 60-year-old residents in randomly selected Beijing neighborhoods.

They asked them whether they were left or right-handed, especially when eating, studied how they handled their chopsticks and took X-rays.

Each joint was checked for signs of osteoarthritis, and then the team compared how many people had arthritis in the chopstick-using hand as opposed to the other hand.

Arthritis was more likely in the chopstick-using hands—specifically the thumb and the second and third joints on the first and third fingers.

"This study suggests that chopsticks may play a role in the development of hand osteoarthritis," Hunter said in a statement.

"While the increase in risk associated with chopstick use is small, this accounts for a large proportion of the osteoarthritis in these joint groups. We recommend further biomechanical research to evaluate the forces involved in chopstick use."

Hunter noted that other studies have shown that using the hands repetitively can stress the joints and cause arthritis. *Reuters*

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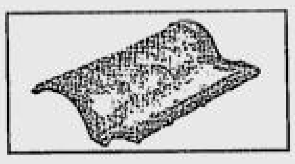

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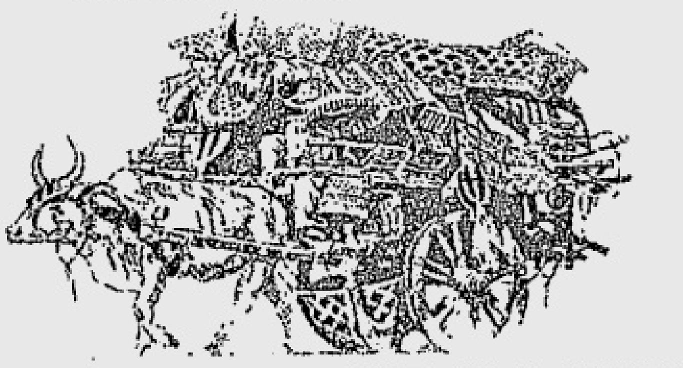

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'Let's All Act to Clean the Air!'

Bus depots tighten luggage inspection

By Leila B. Salaverria

THOSE taking advantage of the three-day weekend next week should be prepared to have their bags checked at bus depots in Manila.

The Western Police District has tightened luggage inspection at bus depots in the city to check out for explosives, firearms and other dangerous equipment and thus prevent possible terror attacks.

Thousands are expected to flock to the provinces either to visit their dead or to take a welcome vacation and respite from work.

WPD spokesperson Chief Insp. Gerry Agunod said in a recent interview that policemen would be deployed in Manila's bus depots along with K-9 units to sniff out explosives.

The baggage inspections are expected to take some time, so bus passengers are warned to be patient.

Agunod also said that most of Manila's police force would be deployed in and around the city's cemeteries to prevent untoward incidents.

The usual firearms, bladed weapons, liquor, boom boxes and the like are banned from cemeteries and would be confiscated at checkpoints.

Walk-in vendors also have no place inside cemeteries because they add to the congestion, said Agunod, adding that only authorized concessionaires would be allowed to sell their wares.

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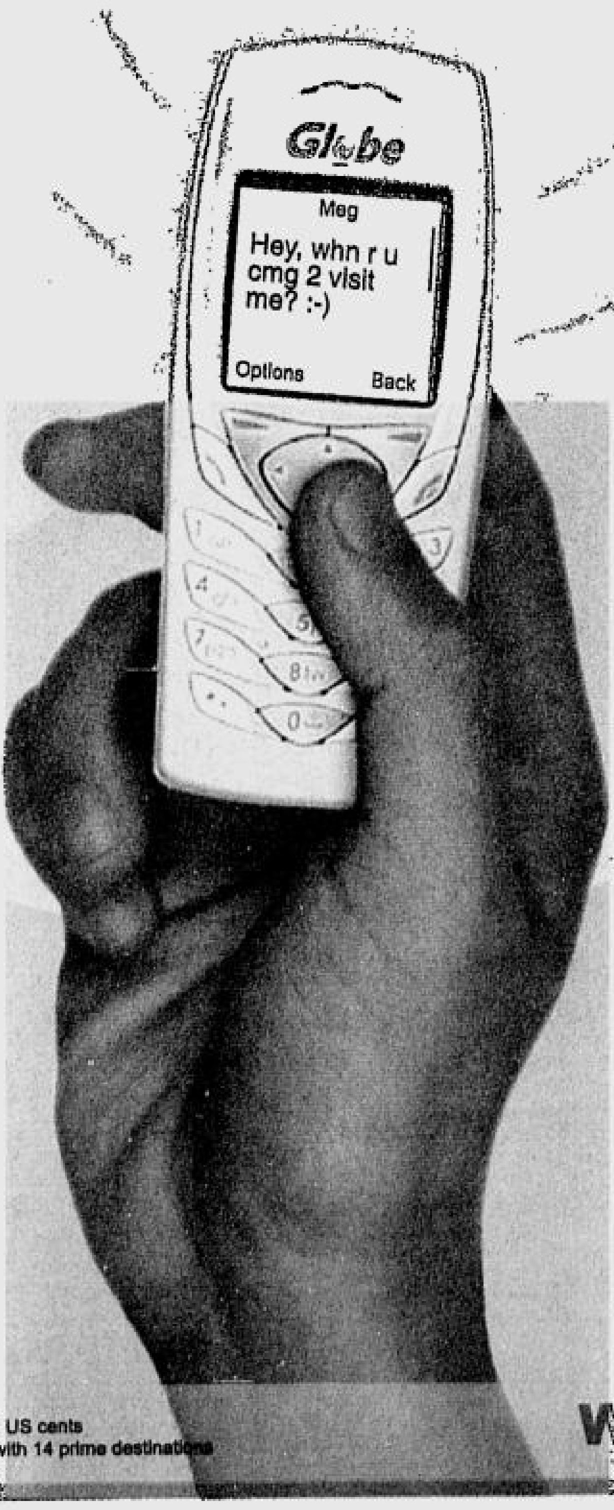


Young actor rapped for brawling in QC restaurant

YOUNG actor Jordan Herrera has been accused of mauling a 23-year-old man in a Quezon City restaurant early yesterday morning.

Herrera, who stars in the film "Bugbog Sarado," created a stir at the Kamuning Station of the Central Police District after authorities invited him in for questioning.

Jomar Bulanon, of Nakpil Street, Malate, Manila, filed physical injury charges at the station against Herrera, real name Jordan Hermogenes, 23, a resident of Eisenhower Condo in Greenhills, San Juan.

Bulanon told police that he was having fun with his friends inside Pilo Restaurant on Timog Avenue, Quezon City, at around 5:30 a.m. when Herrera suddenly approached and, without a word, slapped him.

Not satisfied, Herrera even punched the complainant before the actor left the establishment, Bulanon claimed.

Witnesses told police that Herrera could have thought that Bulanon and his friends were laughing at the actor.

In an interview over the show "Star Talk" on GMA 7, Herrera neither denied nor confirmed that he beat up Bulanon.

He said that he was only too happy that the authorities have allowed him to air his side.

"I'm really tired, I just want to take a rest," Herrera said in Filipino. "I'll just pray for all the things that had happened today."

Herrera was released on bail at about 4 p.m. yesterday.

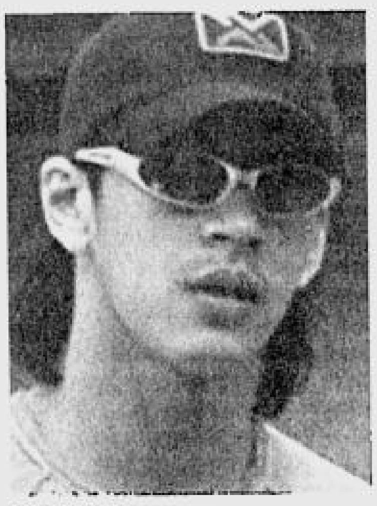
Jordan, who is now part of the four-member band Power Four, initially gained fame when he won as first runner-up of the 2002 Mossimo Bikini Summit. Part of his prize was a movie contract.

He was featured in Quark Henares' film, "Gamitan," alongside Maui Taylor.

He won the 2002 Star Best New Actor award for his debut performance.

In November 2002, a producer filed estafa and swindling charges against Herrera for allegedly failing to show up in a concert in Tuguegarao, Cagayan Valley. The suit has since been settled.

Herrera also appears in "Twin Hearts," GMA 7's new telenovela starring Pops Fernandez and Rudy Fernandez. *Tina Santos, Marinel Cruz*



HERRERA RUDY ESPERAS

Napolcom policy irks Manila cops

By Leila Salaverria

MANILA lawmen yesterday said that they are tired of police officials coming up with excuses to bar their promotion.

Officials of the Manila's Finest Brotherhood Association Inc. expressed shock at the statement of National Police Commission official Conrad Taule, who is responsible for determining who is qualified for promotion or not.

Taule earlier declared that policemen with pending criminal and administrative charges are not eligible for a special promotion.

MFBAI spokesperson SP02 Antonio Emmanuel said that Taule's statement is contrary to Napolcom Memorandum Circular 92-016.

According to section 5 of the circular, "pendency of an administrative or criminal case shall not bar the promotion of a qualified candidate unless the latter has been placed under preventive suspension by reason of the fact that the charge is serious and the evidence of guilt is strong."

The circular went on to say that if a policeman with a pending case is promoted, his promotion would be considered temporary.

SP02 Virgo Villareal, MFBAI vice president, said that Taule's statement could signify that officials were not sincere in giving policemen the recognition they deserve.

Emmanuel yesterday also said that of the 2,300 policemen that Taule said were up for promotion in December, only around 50 came from the Western Police District. The rest, Emmanuel said, came from other units and districts and did not see action during the May 1 siege of Malacañang.

According to Taule, for a policeman to obtain a special promotion, he must perform an act of "courage and gallantry."

The temporary appointment of an officer would only be lifted if the policeman had gone through required schooling.

Villareal took exception to this provision, saying the required training courses are impractical, with policemen being required to shell out anywhere from P40,000 to P100,000 for the schooling.

He said some lawmen go through training and get promoted even without doing their work properly.

NO WORRIES
Controversial issues like the impeachment of Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide and the possible candidacy of action star Fernando Poe Jr. that hog the headlines seem to affect children the least, like this boy who dazzles playmates with his skateboarding skills at the Rizal Park. The park is a favorite playground of kids on weekends. ERIK ARAZAS

Malabon mayor puts up a fight

By Tina Santos

THE BATTLE is not over yet.

Beleaguered Mayor Amado Vicencio yesterday stood defiant in the face of the suspension order served against him and vowed to take the fight to court.

"It doesn't mean that just because I quietly complied with the suspension order I have already surrendered the fight," Vicencio told INQUIRER over the phone.

Vice Mayor Mark Allan Jay Yambao has taken on the mantle of local chief executive.

Vicencio said he is set to meet his legal advisers today to discuss whether he should file a motion for reconsideration or take the case to the Court of Appeals.

Despite the latest setback in his political career, Vicencio said that he still has faith in the country's justice system.

"Although I was really shocked by the recent turn of events, I still believe in our justice system," Vicencio said. "In the end, I know the truth will come out and justice will be served."

Yambao, who took his oath as acting mayor at noon on Friday, said he welcomed Vicencio's move to appeal, saying that "it's his (Vicencio's) right."

"That's all up to him... he has the right to do that," Yambao said. "But as far as I am concerned, I am just doing my job."

Yambao said that he too was surprised with the speedy delivery of the order from the Department of Interior and Local Government, directing him to "assume the Office of the Mayor in an acting capacity."

Vicencio admitted that there have been reports reaching him that his supporters wanted to stage a rally in front of City Hall to protest the mayor's suspension—the third and longest. Vicencio has only eight months to go in this his last term in office.

"I'm happy that (the people) have maintained their trust and confidence in me despite everything," Vicencio said, adding that he had just appealed to his supporters to honor the order while he takes legal steps.

According to the order of Malacañang, Vicencio is being suspended for one year because of "abuse of authority."

Vicencio was accused of advancing P12.6 million for a resettlement site for Malabon residents affected by the Northrail project.

MMDA to use recycled footbridges

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority has come up with an ingenious way to save money on its footbridge project.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando has announced that the agency will be using "recycled" footbridges on the intersection of MIA Road, Diosdado Macapagal Avenue and Coastal Road in Parañaque.

The MMDA is now finalizing plans on the implementation of the clearway system or U-turn scheme on the said roads.

The MMDA chair said the footbridges were once pedestrian overpasses on Edsa which had been removed a few years ago to make way for the construction of the Metro Rail Transit.

"Instead of letting the old structures rot, we would just re-use them to help pedestrians in Parañaque," Fernando said.

He added that the Parañaque footbridges were not included in the P400-million budget for the construction of 92 footbridges all over Metro Manila, especially on roads where the clearway scheme is being implemented.

"That's why we had to look for other ways to lessen our expenses on this project," Fernando said. *Margaux Ortiz*

METROBRIEFS

Fire in Manila

AROUND 20 houses were damaged in a fire that broke out on Labanderos Street near Bustillos and Legarda in Manila yesterday. According to arson investigators, Leonora Serrano, 59, was hurt in the fire that began at 3:48 p.m. and reached task force Bravo alarm. Firemen were able to control the blaze at 4:59 p.m. *Leila Salaverria*

Shot on Edsa

UNIDENTIFIED gunmen on Friday shot and wounded PO2 Benjamin Ramirez of the Central Police District in Quezon City. Witnesses told police that they heard gunshots near a convenience store on the corner of Quezon Avenue and Edsa at 11:40 p.m. The next moment, they saw Ramirez, 30, of Barangay Commonwealth, Quezon City, drop to the pavement. A television crew saw what had happened and took the officer to the Capitol Medical Center. *Tina Santos*

Fatal accident

FERDINAND Luar yesterday was repairing the roof of the warehouse of Wilcon Builders Inc. in Libis, Quezon City when he slipped and fell to his death. PO1 Joseph Madrid said Luar, of Rodriguez, Rizal, lost his footing when he stepped on ACI insulation at about 10:30 a.m. Luar hit several protruding fixtures in the warehouse before he hit the ground. *Tina Santos*

Water assured

MEYCAUAYAN, Bulacan residents can now heave a sigh of relief: Maynilad Water Services Inc. on Friday said that they would not disconnect their water supply served through the Meycauayan Water District (MWD). The two water utilities have worked out the terms of payment of P66.5 million, which MWD owed Maynilad, and signed a new Memorandum of Agreement to that effect. Earlier, Maynilad had threatened to disconnect the water service to MWD for non-payment of its debt, representing the balance of the new water rates for the past two years. *Tina Santos*

Arellano reunion

ARELLANO High School Class 1954 will hold a reunion on Nov. 8, starting at 2 p.m. at the Arellano compound on Teodora Alonzo, Sta. Cruz, Manila. In the reunion, plans will be taken up for the Golden Jubilee Celebration in April 2004. Organizers are urging everyone to submit a copy of his/her biodata and a 2x2 picture. For details, please call Pat Trinidad Marquez at 823-5847, Monsi Isdro Hernandez at 252-4507, and Dodo Angus at 826-0445 and 827-9395.

Petron, Unicef work to make gas stations child-friendly

PETRON Corp., through Petron Foundation, is teaming up with the United Nations Children's Educational Fund (Unicef) to make its service stations child-friendly.

Petron is signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Unicef and the Petron Dealers' Association to implement the program "Petron 4 Kids," which aims to teach children the importance of safety, particularly on the road.

As part of the program, Petron will conduct an information campaign that will promote the use of road signs and safety measures among pedestrians and commuters, as well as what to do in road emergencies. The safety campaign will be held in selected Petron service stations, which Unicef will designate as "child-friendly" stations.

At least one million children, aged 14 and under, die each year from preventable injuries.

"We are in the business of serving and helping motorists," said Nicasio I. Alcantara, Petron chair and chief executive officer. "This program allows us to make them responsible road users and advocates of children's welfare through safety on the road."

Palanan residents take case to LTFRB

By Tina Santos

RESIDENTS of Arellano Avenue and Madras Street in Palanan, Makati City are fighting alone.

Manuel Bondad, a resident for 30 years, said he and his neighbors have been forced to resort to legal action after the authorities—the police, barangay and city officials—failed to act on their complaint against a trucking firm which has been fouling up their community for 18 years.

Bondad said the case, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), has yet to be decided by the agency.

Palanan residents vowed to pursue their long-standing fight against the ESC Trucking Company whose trucks, they claimed, have been breaking the peace and polluting the air in their neighborhood for almost two decades.

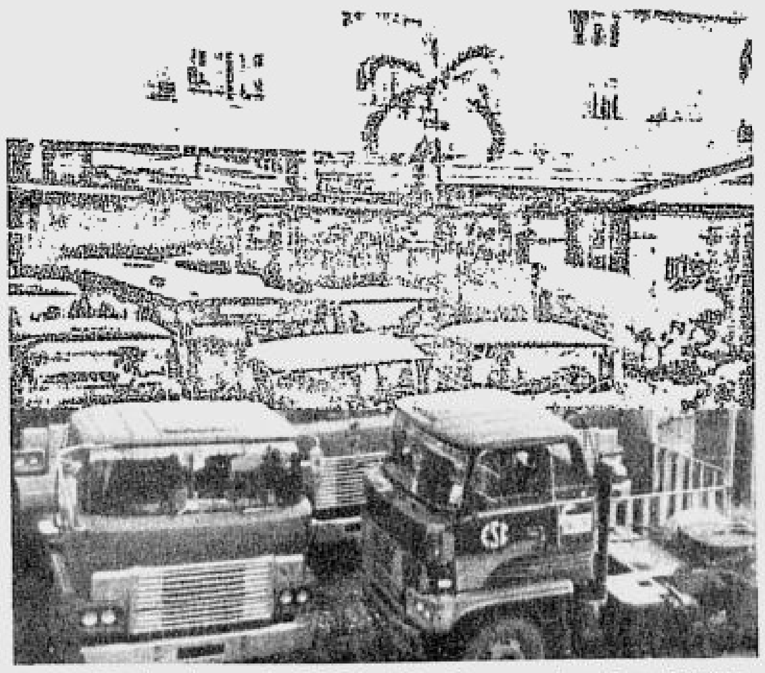
Their own parking lot

Several trucks belonging to the firm have been using a 300-square-meter lot at 4637 Arellano Avenue as a garage and repair shop. Worse, the firm has also turned the street into its own parking lot.

The residents stressed that an August 2001 Makati City zoning ordinance classified Palanan and Arellano Avenue as a residential zone and parking for cargo trucks was not among the list of uses permitted in the area.

Their case was strengthened by a certification issued by Vernon Espiritu, officer-in-charge of the Metro Manila Zoning Administration Office of the Metro Manila Development Authority, on Sept. 4, 2003, a copy of which was obtained by the INQUIRER.

Activities not included in the list of uses permitted in a residential area may be granted a Temporary Use Permit, which Emmanuel Castillo, owner of ESC Trucking Corp., had secured in Nov. 1999 from the then Metro Manila Commission, and signed by a certain Orlando Malabanan.



TRUCKS belonging to the ESC Trucking Company have been fouling up the community in Palanan, Makati City, according to long-time residents of the area.

But the permit has to be renewed every year, subject to the faithful compliance of the appropriate provisions, zoning ordinance and conditions of the agency.

Spurious

The residents questioned the firm's lack of a locational clearance. A zoning clearance for more than three trucks is among the principal requirements needed before an applicant could secure a Certificate of Public Convenience or franchise from the LTRFB.

But on July 23, 2003, Espiritu pointed out that, based on their records—from Jan. 1998 up to the time the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance of Makati City has been ratified by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board on Aug. 20, 2001—no locational clearance has been issued by their office to the ESC.

Based on the documents issued by the MMDA, Malabanan was not among those who were authorized to sign the temporary permit which, in this case, had also served as the locational clearance.

This led residents to conclude that the firm owner had submitted "spurious" documents to the LTFRB.

The LTFRB, through Memorandum Circular 2002-009 signed by former chair Dante Lantin, has acknowledged that such incidents do occur.

Commercial area

The use of side streets for repairs, maintenance and parking of trucks was also a clear violation of another memo issued by the Board on Nov. 17, 1993, requiring operators to put up a garage for their units, the residents claimed.

Castillo could not be reached for comment, but the defense he put up, which was contained in a letter of explanation he submitted to the Board on Sept. 2, 2003, was that his garage was located "not in a residential, but a commercial area."

He had even enumerated names of commercial establishments within the area to prove his claim.

One establishment he cited was Cash and Carry, which is blocks away from the garage as shown in the Barangay Palanan map, but which appeared adjacent to it based on the sketch of location he submitted to the Board.

In a recent interview, Castillo said he had been trying to patch things up with the residents, stressing that his business was legitimate "so it should not be relocated."

Health hazards

Residents also pointed out that the garage affects the health of the people living in the area.

"The residents have been constantly agonizing over the noise and the fumes of the trucks," Bondad said. "We've suffered long enough."

Bondad said that many of the residents now have respiratory problems. Most have sleepless nights because of the noise and the smoke they inhale day and night.

"We are also entitled to a good night's rest," said another resident, a 35-year-old government employee who has been living in the area for 20 years.

She said that while Castillo enjoys life in his residence in Alabang, they are living in a miserable condition.

Most of the residents said they would consider it an early Christmas gift if their pleas to have the garage relocated were granted.

METRO
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

SUERTRES 1 2 8
SIX DIGIT (In exact order)
2 3 1 6 9 0

6/42 Luzon
2 6 18 29 39 40
Vis-Min
3 10 13 14 35 41

Fare discounts for students pushed

DepEd, DOTC urge transport groups to follow Imboa's lead

By Alcuin Papa

THE DEPARTMENT of Education and the Department of Transportation and Communication have called on transport groups to give students a discount on jeepney and bus fares.

Education Secretary Edilberto de Jesus said on Friday that the Integrated Metro Bus Operators Association (Imboa) had already proposed to give discounts on student fares. But he said his office has yet to receive the formal proposal on the matter.

"We are glad about the reported proposal. Anything that would help the students would be received positively by us but no one has given us a formal proposal," De Jesus said.

Imboa president Claire dela Fuente made the proposal for a 20 percent fare discount for students after various student groups called on transport operators to grant discounted fares.

However, she added that the DepEd should provide each student a special identification card to avail of the discount.

But De Jesus said the school's identification card issued to students should be sufficient proof for transport operators to grant discounts.

"The current school ID is enough since it is proof that the student is really enrolled in their respective schools," he said.

He added that the department does not have the funds to finance the issuance of another ID card for the fare discount.

Meanwhile, DOTC spokesperson Thompson Lantion had urged jeepney drivers to follow Imboa's suit and grant a fare discount.

"The Imboa has set the pace. I do hope that other transport groups such as jeepneys follow their lead," Lantion said.

If a special identification card is to be issued by the DepEd to students for the discounted fares, Lantion said jeepney groups can coordinate with bus groups to accept just one card.

Under the proposal, students will pay only P3.20 for the first four kilometers instead of the usual P4.

The Imboa is composed of 83 bus companies with a total of 3,000 bus units.

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'Lean, mean' budget for Manila in '04

By Tarra Quismundo

CALLING it "lean and mean," Manila Mayor Lito Atienza has forwarded to the City Council the proposed budget for 2004.

The proposed budget for Manila next year is P5.9 billion, P65 million higher than this year's P5.835 billion.

Atienza told the City Council that the "scarce resources will be allocated prudently... to the competing needs of the various departments."

The budget's 1.12 percent increase accounts for the city's goal to fully implement the Magna Carta for Health Workers, which will be part of the city's personal expenses worth over P2.27 billion, Atienza said.

The Magna Carta has given selected health workers a P200 increase in their hazard pay, from P300 to P500.

Next year, City Hall plans to give the increase to 3,244 other health workers.

The increase in the proposed budget, however, does not cover the anticipated increase in utility costs and additional expenses of the city in the coming elections.

Meanwhile, a bulk of the total budget, amounting to P407 million, is allocated to infrastructure and development projects in Manila.

Atienza said the budget still focuses on the "Buhayin ang Maynila" program, which he described as a comprehensive and multifaceted effort to "redevelop Manila into the Pearl of the Orient."

The program, which brought construction crews to Plaza Miranda, Liwasang Bonifacio, Plaza Rajah Sulayman, Roxas Boulevard, and recently, Rizal Avenue, will soon take on Quezon Boulevard, Escolta, Binondo and other commercial centers.

"Buhayin ang Maynila," which has been criticized before due to traffic congestion brought by the construction projects, also includes medical and educational services.

About P3.23 billion of the proposed budget would be sourced from the projected tax collection, while P1.3 billion is expected to come from the national government's allocation for the city.

Another hospital for cancer kids

By Margaux Ortiz

THERE'S more to the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) than taking care of the metropolis' traffic and garbage woes.

For one, the agency is expected to finish transforming an old dilapidated building on E. Rodriguez Avenue into a hospital for children with cancer at the end of the month, according to MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando.

Fernando said the hospital, formerly an old American building that housed the Quezon Institute, is a joint project between the MMDA and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO).

Unknown to many, Fernando said, one of the mandated functions of the MMDA is to attend to the health needs of Metro Manila's residents.

He said they are presently spending around P2.5 million for the project.

MMDA General Manager Robert Nacianceno said the hospital, to be called the Children's Pavilion, could accommodate around 80 patients.

"Presidential daughter, Luli Arroyo, brought the project to our attention months ago," Nacianceno told the INQUIRER.

Nacianceno said their own personnel from the MMDA engineering and construction and maintenance departments have been tasked to fix the building's ceiling, roof and walls.

The MMDA official said these personnel are part of the same group responsible for repairing and landscaping Metro Manila's sidewalks and roads.

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SPORTS TV
Compiled by L. Mangulat

BASEBALL: MLB World Series 2003 Game 6; 7:30 a.m. (r-2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.); ESPN—The Fall Classic goes down the wire.

HORSE RACING: The Breeder's Cup 2003; 8 p.m. (r).; Solar Sports—Catch the replay of one of the most anticipated horse races.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

GMA GRACES RAIN-HIT OPENER

Thrice-postponed Palaro is on

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TUBOD, Lanao del Norte—Although drenched by a sudden downpour, President Macapagal-Arroyo remained in high spirits as she officially declared the thrice-postponed 2003 Palarong Pambansa open yesterday.

"I hope you don't catch colds," she told the close to 4,000 rain-soaked students and officials after urging them to observe fair play and team work in her 15-minute keynote speech before a crowd of 20,000 at the Mindanao Civic Center here.

"Sports transcends religions, beliefs, culture and language, I hope we can use this to overcome divisions in our life," added the President, who arrived aboard a military helicopter from Cagayan de Oro.

She also praised the organizers' tenacity and determination to stage the Palaro despite three postponements triggered by an outbreak of hostilities between government troops and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front last April.

"This is a tribute to all of you youths out there," said the President, who exhorted the athletes to follow the footsteps of renowned Palaro discoveries, among them Lydia de Vega-Mercado, Elma Muros-Posadas and Isidro del Prado.

Competitions go full blast today among elementary and secondary athletes from 14 of 17 regions although little league baseball and softball have started before yesterday's opening ceremony.

The President, wearing a blue-black jacket and a white cap, walked on the rubberized MCC oval on her way to the grandstand unmindful of the sudden afternoon drizzle.

After her speech, the President beat a Maranao gong three times to signal the official opening of the Palaro then performed another walk in the rain on her way out, this time shaking hands with teachers and students about to perform playground demonstrations that will cap the opening rites.

"We didn't lose hope in staging this event despite the many frustrations in the past. And with today's Palaro opening, one of Lanao del Norte's fondest dreams came true. We hope this will jumpstart our province's progress as well as that of Mindanao," Lanao del Norte Gov. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo said.

EDWIN BACASMAS

WALKING IN THE RAIN. President Arroyo shakes hands with teachers and students during the opening of the Palarong Pambansa yesterday.

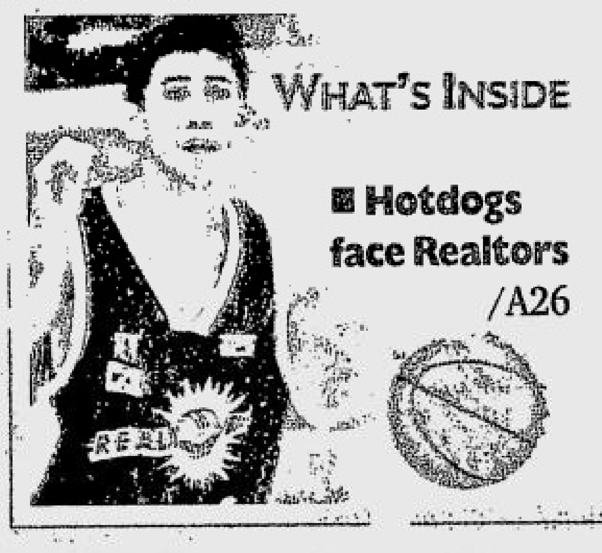
Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain thanked the President for her continued support for sports, adding that the President's presence at the Palaro opening was a testament to the peace and stability in Mindanao.

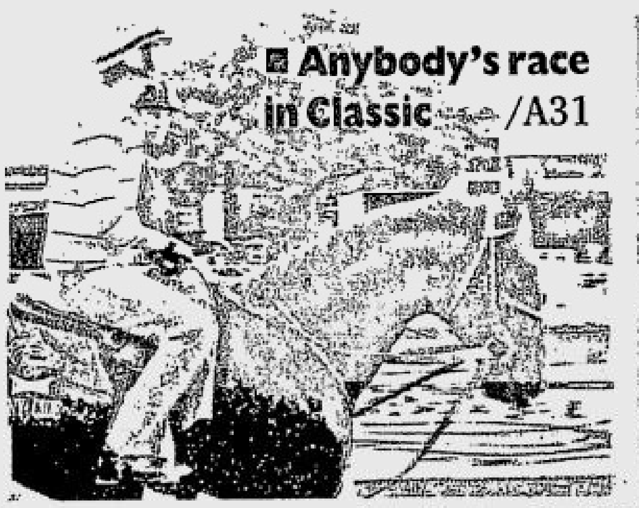
He noted that the Palaro came on the heels of the Mindanao Friendship Games which the PSC also staged successfully in Mati, Davao Oriental.

The province spent P500 million in building the MCC two years ago. With its world-class facilities, Mrs. Dimaporo said Lanao del Norte is also hoping to stage some games of the 2005 Southeast Asian Games which the country will host.

Security was tight around the MCC with the military coming up with a series of checkpoints starting from Kolambugan' town, site of April's hostilities that caused the Palaro's postponement. *With a report from Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

WHAT'S INSIDE


■ Hotdogs face Realtors /A26


■ Anybody's race in Classic /A31

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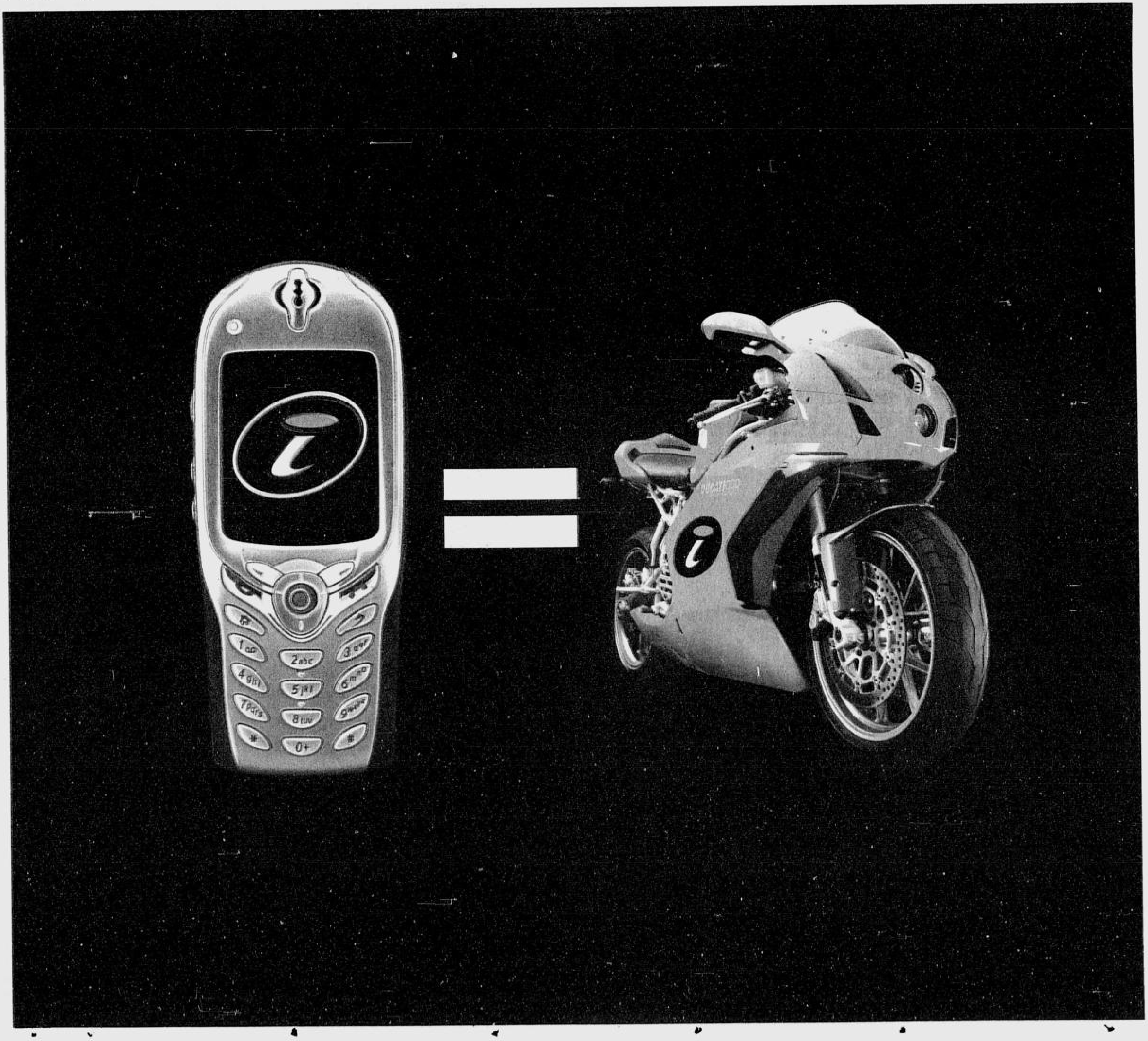


STA. LUCIA playmaker Paolo Mendoza, shown here signalling a play, will perform a big role as the Realtors seek to arrest a two-game losing streak when they battle the Purefoods Hotdogs today.

ROMY HOMILLADA

GAMES TODAY
(*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:00 p.m.—Ginebra vs Talk 'N Text
6:30 p.m.—Purefoods vs Sta. Lucia

REINFORCED CONFERENCE

Purefoods faces SLR

PUREFOODS tries to bolster its determined drive to nail a quarterfinal slot when it tackles Sta. Lucia Realty tonight in the Samsung-PBA Reinforced Conference at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Hotdogs, on a two-game winning run, are hoping to tie FedEx (4-8) by besting the Realtors, who are already in the quarterfinals and remain the Group A leader despite losing their last two outings for a 6-5 record.

The Purefoods-Sta. Lucia tiff is set at 6:30 p.m., after the 4 p.m. encounter between Ginebra and Talk 'N Text, two squads which have secured quarterfinals slots in Group B.

"We're treating every game as do-or-die," said Purefoods mentor Ryan Gregorio. Purefoods caps its elimination campaign against also-ran Shell on Nov. 2 at the Big Dome.

With new import Lenny Cooke doing the most damage, the Hotdogs beat Alaska and Fedex, respectively.

But they need to work hard against the Realtors, who took an embarrassing loss to FedEx Friday after letting Alaska escape with an overtime victory.

Except for playmaker Paolo Mendoza, teammates Dennis Espino, Marlou Aquino and Damian Owens seemed to have lost their usual fire against the Express.

The 5-foot-11 Mendoza came up with an 11-point, seven-rebound, seven-assist performance, but failed to gain support from his teammates as the Realtors were beaten badly by the Express, 109-85.

The Phone Pals and the Kings, tied at 6-5, are expected to go all out to secure favorable slots in the quarterfinals.

Asi Taulava will have his hands full against Ginebra big men Eric Menk and Rommel Adducul while Jimmy Alapag and Donbel Belano will be tested by Gin Kings Bal David and Aris Dimaunahan.

The quarterfinal pairings pit No. 1 against No. 4 and No. 2 against No. 3 with the winners advancing to the quarterfinals. *Dennis U. Eroa*

Miñoza falls to 16th spot

FRANKIE Miñoza failed to get closer to the leaders despite a three-under-par 69 yesterday and even fell to 16th spot on a day of torrid scoring in the third round of the $1million Bridgestone Open in Chiba, Japan.

Miñoza made the last of his four birdies on the 18th to join Jumbo Ozaki and five others at 207, nine under at the 7,208-yard Sodegaura Country Club in Chiba.

Frankie's chances of winning appear bleak as he fell eight shots behind co-leaders Paul Sheehan and Daisuke Maruyama with just 18 holes left.

Sheehan shot a 66 while Maruyama fired a 67 to lead Hideto Tanihara, who carded the tournament's lowest round so far of 63, by one.

In the Sanya Cup at the Yalong Bay Club course in China, Gerald Rosales kept a share of 13th after a one-under-par 71 in the third round.

Rosales stood at 210, five shots off 45-year-old leader Greg Hanrahan. Hanrahan who will try to become the Asian Tour's oldest winner today, holds a two-shot lead over four players including second round leaders Andy Pitt and Stephen Lindskog after a 69-205.

Pitts broke the course record with a 64 Friday and stands to win $10,000 if nobody betters his score on Sunday. *Jong Arcano*

Beermen rip Aces in Cebu

By June Navarro

CEBU CITY—San Miguel Beer hardly needed the services of Kwan Johnson as the Beermen dumped the injury-plagued Alaska Aces, 90-78, in the Samsung-PBA Reinforced Conference before a jampacked crowd at the Cebu Coliseum here.

Joey Mente and Olsen Racela formed a deadly combination in the backcourt while Nic Belasco, Danny Ildefonso and Dorian Peña relentlessly hammered the Aces inside the paint as the Beermen finished strong against the Aces.

With the win, the Beermen improved to 5-7 and secured at least a playoff for a quarterfinal berth.

The Aces absorbed their seventh setback in 11 outings.

Although Johnson made some crucial plays down the stretch, he was hardly a factor for the Beermen as he went 4-of-13 from the field to finish with eight points.

Mike Fontaine, Alaska's import, fared worse, however. Although he finished with a game-high 16 points, it was a far cry from his 29.1-point average.

The Aces sorely missed the services of their leading scorer, Ali Peek, who underwent an arthroscopic surgery yesterday morning to remove fluids in his left knee and a suspected bone chip.

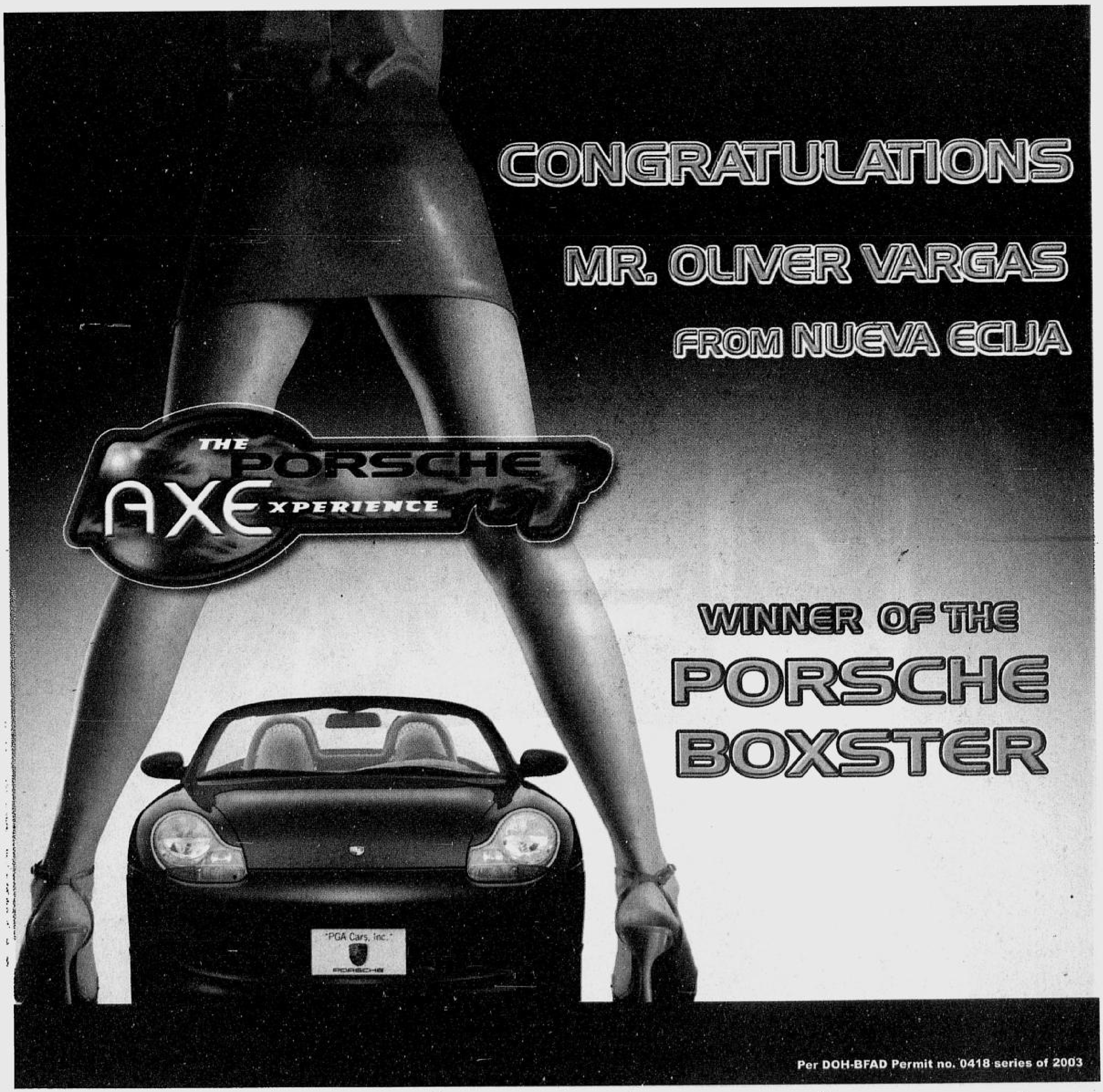
Guard Brandon Lee Cablay also failed to suit up for the Aces. He is suffering from a hyperextended right knee that will keep him out of action for three weeks.

Scores:

SAN MIGUEL 90—Peña 15, Ildefonso 15, Belasco 14, Racela 13, Mente 10, Johnson 8, Victoria 7, Hontiveros 6, Gahol 2.

ALASKA 78—Fontaine 16, Arigo 16, Cortez 13, Allado 12, Felhl 8, Noble 4, Padilla 3, Tejada 4, Duat 2, Camaso 0.

Quarters: 21-18, 49-39, 65-63, 90-78.



Wallowing in fantasy

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

I HAD long wanted to say this but, for some reason, I wasn't able to. Well, here I am now, yelling to our churchgoers from the pulpit of my heart this Sunday, the 26th of October: Evander Holyfield should retire.

Sorry for being too brash and so emphatic about it.

But Holyfield has been 2-4-2 (win-loss-draw) in his last eight fights and hasn't stopped a fighter in six years. Just a while back, he was stopped by a fighter who was bloated by force to qualify as a cruiserweight. I am referring to James Toney. Toney merely toyed with Holyfield in the early going. When he got fed up with the toying, Toney knocked him out in the ninth.

I thought that pumped some sense into Holyfield's coconut.

But heck, no. He said he just had a bad day and he would come back "pretty soon" to fight again.

Oh, boy, I guess the punches he's been taking for two decades now must have deformed his brain.

Do we have the latest duplicate of our very own Flash Elorde, who was forcibly retired by the Games and Amusements Board when it became evident Da Flash would not hang up his gloves until he got crippled or something atop the ring?

Holyfield is a four-time heavyweight champion of the world, the only one who has beaten the fearsome Mike Tyson twice.

The first one came via a shocking knockout that was so compelling it quickly installed Holyfield alongside such heavyweight greats like Max Schmelling, Joe Louis, Rocky Marciano, George Foreman, Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali. It made his bloody wars with the likes of Riddick Bowe and Michael Dokes small time as Tyson symbolized everything that class boxing was at that time—1996.

The second victory secured Holyfield's place in boxing history but it came with a touch of the theater of the absurd: Holyfield had a piece of his ear chewed off by Tyson's razor-sharp teeth in a fit of on-the-ring depression that led to the revocation of Tyson's boxing license in 1997. That chunk of flesh has since been re-attached, but not long after, Holyfield, because of old age, got detached from reality.

How many boxers have fallen prey to the pitfalls of brain damage?

The list is long and that includes the late Jerry Quarry and Greg Page. Frank Bruno had just been committed to a mental institution. Joe Frazier's speech is slurred, and Muhammad Ali suffers from Parkinson's disease, a result of what many say might have been the numerous punches his face had received for nearly 20 years of boxing.

I have long ago stopped asking myself why officials allow old fighters to box on, Holyfield, who is 41, included. It is now more on the question why old boxers still want to fight in spite of reflexes dulled by time. Ego? Maybe. Take the case of Holyfield. He is not poor as he has, unlike Joe Louis and many others, handled his winnings well. He's so rich that even Mike Tyson, the lavishly spending nut head, couldn't spend Holyfield's wealth in five lifetimes.

"My whole life, people have wanted to retire me," Holyfield has told the Associated Press. "They have said that I was no good. They have said that I was too small, but all it is, is talk. The most important thing for me is not my age. It is that I have taken good care of myself."

His bout with Toney was his 11th title fight in his last 12 encounters. He couldn't even throw one decent punch and he knew the reason: His skills couldn't obey his mind anymore.

How can you stop a man like Holyfield from wallowing in fantasy?

Officials can always try to talk him out of it. If they fail, they should replicate the Flash Elordé solution: Strip Holyfield of his boxing license.

They will not only stop inflicting cruelty to the man. They will also be treating his fans with fairness, while likewise doing justice to the sport.

MIAMI COACH

Pat Riley resigns

MIAMI—Pat Riley resigned as coach of the Miami Heat less than a week before the start of the NBA season, opting Friday to try to rebuild the team from the front office only.

Riley ranks second in NBA history with 1,110 victories, and he led the Los Angeles Lakers to four championships in the 1980s.

But the Heat missed the playoffs the past two years, finishing at the bottom of the Atlantic Division at 25-57 last season—Riley's worst record in 21 years as an NBA head coach.

"There was no way I could go upstairs until I thought this thing was on solid ground," Riley said. "It's time for another voice. I strongly believe that."

While he stays on as team president, Riley will be replaced as coach by Stan Van Gundy, his top assistant the past several seasons and the younger brother of Houston Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy. They're just the second set of brothers to coach in the NBA; Herb and Larry Brown did so in the 1970s.

"I still at this point have not told my kids, my parents. I haven't told my brother, because I was still sort of half-expecting he would change his mind," Stan Van Gundy said. "He had mentioned it to me on Wednesday. I didn't even tell my wife.

"It came as very much a surprise."

The Heat's first game is Tuesday at Philadelphia; players were told of Riley's decision Friday.

"The transition for the players will be a little difficult," Van Gundy said. "It will be different."

AP

MIAMI HEAT
Ameri

RILEY announces his resignation. AP

Ilocos Sur cagers win

SAN PABLO CITY—The Ilocos Sur Snipers held off Spring Cooking Oil-San Pablo 7 Lakers, 80-72, Friday as the 2003 Panasonic NBL Cup Regional Championship got under way at the Florante Aquino Stadium here.

Kalani Ferreira, Philip Butel and ex-PBA point guard Kenny Evans combined their efforts to seal the Snipers' triumph after the 7 Lakers had closed in at 72-74 with a blistering 11-0 drive.

The Spring-San Pablo bid collapsed when Froilan Baguion, one of the best point guards in the UAAP, fouled out in the homestretch.

Mayor Florante "Boy" Aquino, Panasonic Philippines, President Rodolfo Perez and NBL chair Christian Tan graced the opening ceremony.

Impressive start by Bata

FILIPINO Efren "Bata" Reyes opened his campaign on a high note with a win and a draw in the 2003 Stan-James.com World Pool League in Warsaw, Poland recently.

The 49-year-old Reyes, eyeing his third World Pool League crown, nipped 1996 US Open champion Rodney Morris, 6-4, in the opening round and settled for a draw against World Pool Master champ Tony "Tornado" Drago of Malta, 5-5.

Asian No. 2 and 28-year-old Hsia Hui-Kai of Chinese-Taipei leads the six-player field with back-to-back wins over Drago, 8-2, and reigning Cardiff World Pool titlist Thorsten Hohmann of Germany, 6-4.

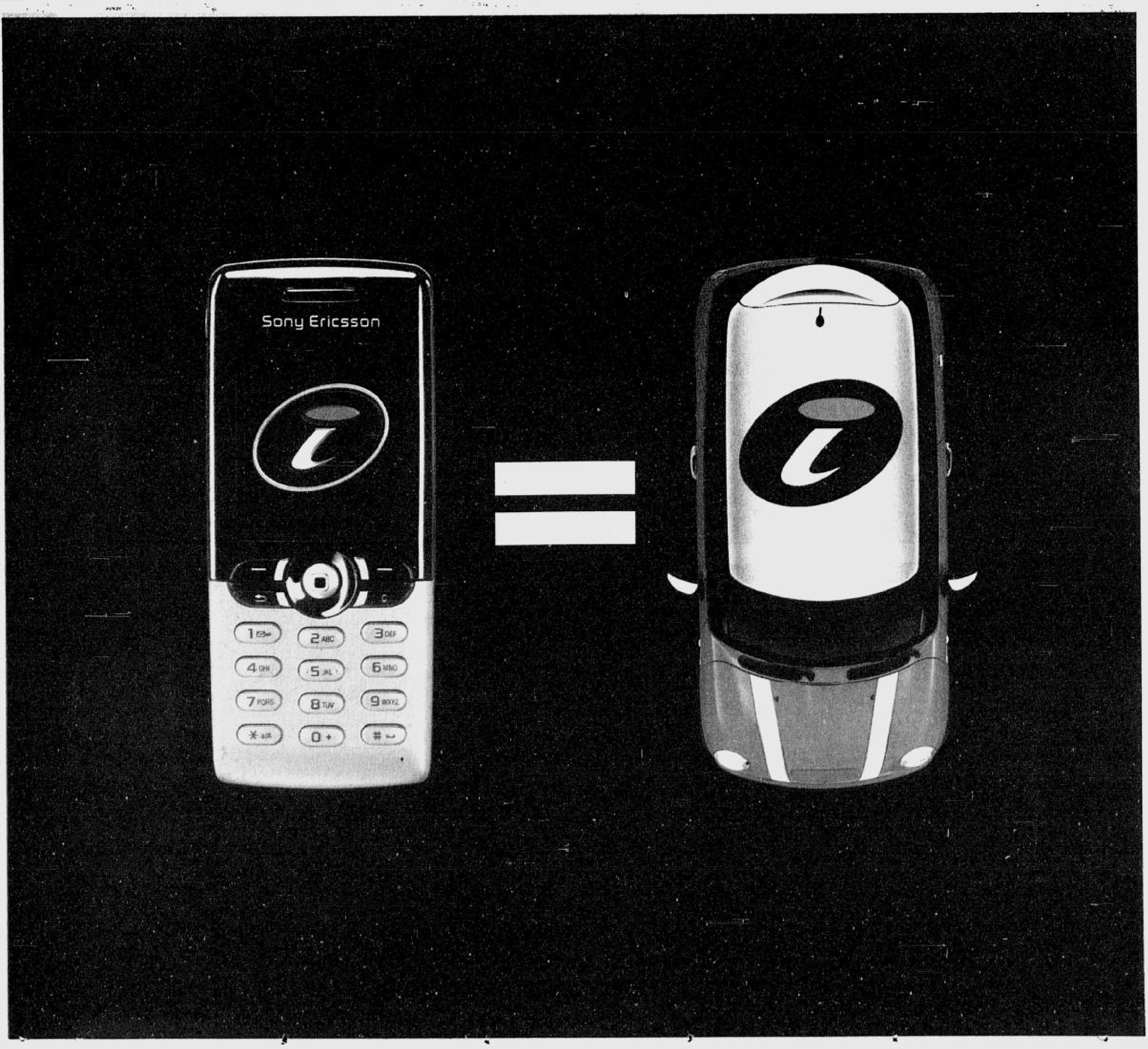
Hohmann had earlier beaten former world pool champ Oliver "The Machine" Ortmann, 6-4, in his opening round.

Morris bounced back after his sorry loss to Reyes by subduing the winless Ortmann.

Under World Pool League rules, the six players collide in a 10-rack match with a win worth two points and a draw one.

The event offers a total pot prize of $15,000.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor



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FUNAI CLASSIC

Woods ties old Nelson mark, closes in on Singh

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida—Just like he has done so many times over the last 5 1/2 years, Tiger Woods signed his card after the second round of the Funai Classic at Disney and immediately sized up his chances for the weekend.

This time, the routine turned into a record.

Woods matched the 55-year-old standard set by Byron Nelson on Friday by making the cut in his 113th consecutive PGA Tour event, posting a 5-under 67 to easily qualify for the weekend and leave himself four shots behind leader Vijay Singh.

"I'm very proud," Woods said. "It's certainly not easy to do."

Nelson established the record from 1941 to 1948, although it is nearly impossible to compare eras.

Making the cut in Nelson's generation meant making money, and he never finished lower than 17th during his streak. Then again, the fields weren't nearly as deep or strong.

The PGA Tour counts 23 tournaments in Woods' streak that didn't even have a cut. One of the those is the Tour Championship, where Woods will break the record in two weeks.

Still, no one has come close to Woods' consistency in today's game. The second-best cut streak in the last 20 years belonged to Singh, who made 53 in a row from 1995 to 1998. On the current list, Ernie Els is second with 26.

Woods paid tribute to Nelson, calling his record "phenomenal."

"He's been a model of what all golfers should be," Woods said.

Woods' streak began after he withdrew from the 1998 Pebble Beach National Pro-Am by declining to return seven months later to finish the third round of the rain-plagued event.

There have been at least 10 close calls during his streak, but Friday wasn't among them.

If anything, Woods was perturbed at not being closer to the lead.

"You know what I've discovered about this game? It's all about consistency," Woods said, seemingly prepared to wax philosophical about his cut streak.

"And right now," he added, "I consistently can't make a ... putt!"

That wasn't a problem for Singh, who is determined to keep Woods from another record by denying him from a fifth straight PGA Tour money title.

Singh, the hottest player in golf with seven top 10s in his last eight tournaments, overcame his first bogey of the tournament on No. 9 by playing his next seven holes in 7 under par, including an eagle on No. 7 on the Palm course.

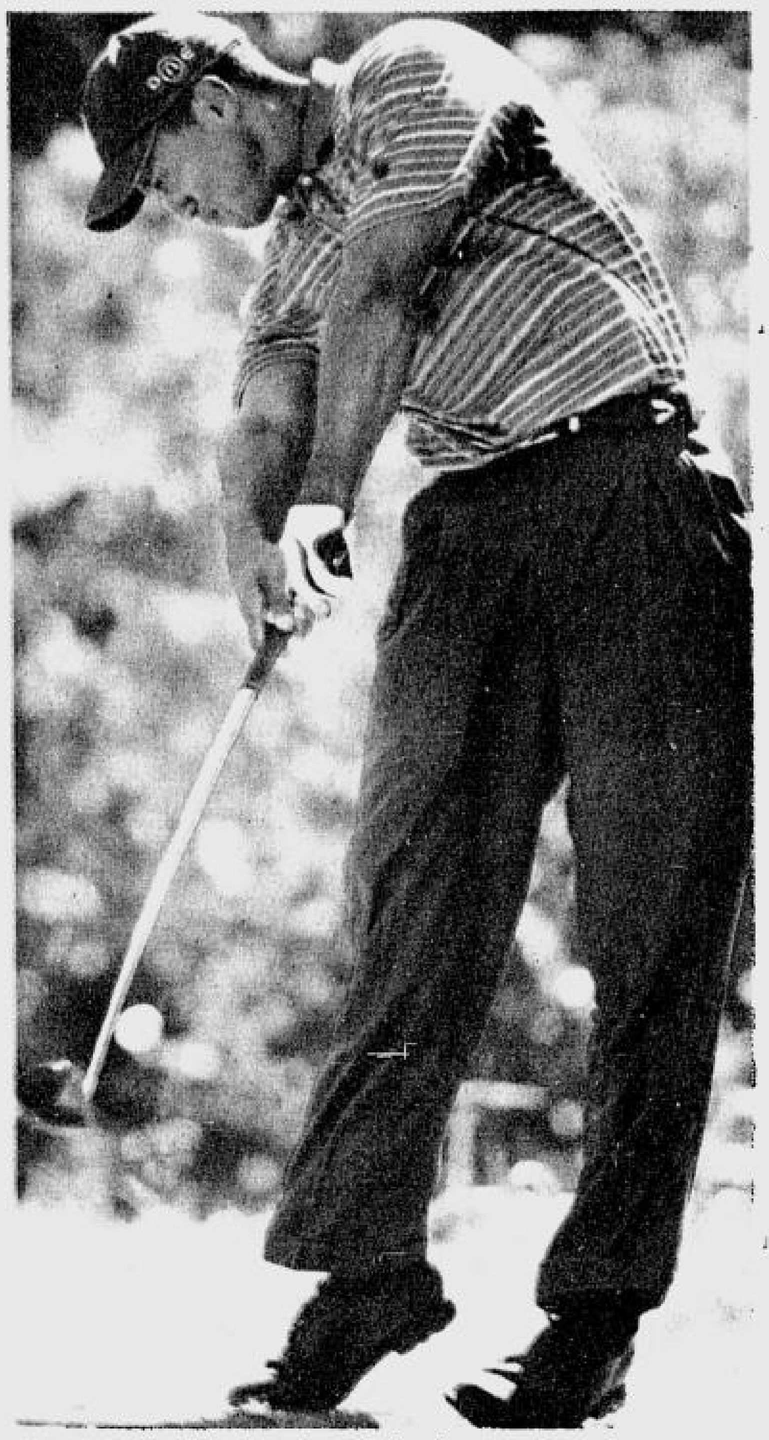
Singh finished with a 65 and was at 15-under 129.

"I guess it's all momentum," Singh said. "If you have the momentum going on your side, then it flows and it's going to be good."

Singh had a one-stroke lead over Bob Estes (63), while John Rollins (65) and David Peoples (66) were another stroke back.

Davis Love III, who is still in the hunt for the money title, had a 65 and was in a large group at 12-under 132.

Singh is only $171,239 behind Woods on the money list. He has played eight more times than Woods. *AP*



WOODS fires off the fourth tee during the second round. REUTERS

Deen highlights runaway victory in Tour with ace

BUSINESSMAN Eric Deen sustained his streak of good fortune at the Cebu Country Club this year by highlighting his runaway victory in the championship division with a hole-in-one on Friday in the fifth leg of the Samsung Amateur Golf Tour.

Deen aced the fifth hole with 9-iron for the second time this year en route to a one-over-par 73 to successfully retain the title. He finished eight shots clear of Jovi Neri (76-153) who moved up to second after Carl Almario was disqualified for signing a wrong scorecard.

Deen, who had set the course record of 9-under-par 63 also with an ace on No. 5 last Jan. 1, bagged the Samsung 43-inch Projection TV. and DVD worth more than P100,000 for the hole-in-one feat. He also won another Samsung flat TV for winning his division.

Lost in the shadow of Deen's superb play were the exciting finishes in the other divisions of the tourney co-sponsored by Mario's Restaurant, Wilson, Gatorade, Tokyo Tokyo, Microtel, Custom Clubmakers, Rogin-E and Dunlop Golf with radio stations Killer Bee, Citylite 88.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite as official media partners.

Nonoy Tirol topped Class A, Nilo Seno ruled Class B and Deo Gabasa prevailed in Class C, Gigi Frokjear (Class A) and Mercy Bejar (Class B) were the ladies division champions.

In the accompanying Samsung Putting Challenge, Enzo Almario (jungolf), Wellington Lim (senior), Vicky Moraza (ladies) and Neri and Tirol (men) topped their respective divisions.

Boy Blue Ocampo of the organizing Professional Sports Management Group, handed out trophies and appliances to the winners in lieu of Samsung Philippines president and CEO Sang Youl Eom in a fun-filled awards ceremony at the CCC.

The next leg will be played at the Camp John Hay in Baguio on Nov. 13-14. The last two stops will be hosted by Eastridge and Tagaytay Midlands.

All leg winners both in the Amateur Tour and the Putting Challenge will assemble at the Mt. Malarayat in Batangas in the national finals which has been moved to March 11-12 since the original schedule runs in conflict with the PAL Interclub.

Tirol rallied with a 74-154 to beat Enrico Solon (78-155) by one, Seno's closing 80-160 gave him a one-stroke victory over Johnvic Cogal.

"All divisions in the Cebu leg were fiercely contested and it follows the competitive mood of the series. It's not really easy winning a particular division and a player needs to be very consistent to become No. 1," said Ocampo.

Cebu City run unfolds today

CEBU CITY—Nearly a thousand fitness enthusiasts of all ages are expected to fill the major thoroughfares of this Queen City of the South as the Osaka Iridology Anniversary Run fires off in front of the Capitol Building here.

A total of P50,000 cash prizes plus gift packs containing Osaka natural health products will be given away to the winners of this event that features contests in various categories: the Men's Open, Women's Open Masters A, Masters B, Executive A and Executive B.

Leading the contenders in the Men's Open division are Cebu's prominent marathon figures Rowen Montecillo, Rogelio Reli and Tirso Pamaybay.

Participants in the 10km run will pass through historic places in the city such as the Colon St., the oldest street in the country and Plaza Independencia, the city park that houses one of the oldest Spanish forts.

"Not only do we emphasize health awareness in this event, we also would like to showcase historic areas in this city where our Osaka Iridology was born eight years ago," said Osaka Iridology CEO and president Jonathan Guardo who is himself a race participant.

He will compete in the executive division along with his brothers Jerry, Jeson and Jose Jr.

Joining them are RTC judge Gabriel Ingles, Dr. Abraham Malawe, Cebu Port Authority Manager Oscar Lopez, Wyeth Regional Manager Reli Mercado, Duever Durano, Sunsport executive Allan Chuachoy and Osaka Human Resources Director Ariel Guardo.

Nepomuceno leads winners

PEPING Nepomuceno lived up to his top billing by scoring a 75 to win Class A by two strokes even as Rosanno Torres, Carlo Dones, Edgar Pacia and Arlette Dizon won the other divisions in the Wilson-sponsored monthly tournament of the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite.

Nepomuceno, one of the spearheads of the Eagle contingent in the Sta. Lucia Tour, turned back Reynolito Ronquillo by two strokes in the continuation of the monthly competitions at the country's biggest club and one of Asia's largest.

It marked the first time that the newly opened Greg Norman course, the fourth at the 700-hectare Eagle complex which only recently opened its Family and Sports Clubhouse, was used for the monthly tilt. The three other courses are designed by Isao Aoki, Nick Faldo and Andy Dye.

Torres scored an 81 to nip Bernie Amador and Oscar Ordinario by one; Dones carded an 83 for a three-shot win over Jose Mendoza and Reynaldo Patilla and Pacia finished two strokes ahead of Roberto Arbis and three up on Tiong Hee Ngo with his 99.

Arlette Dizon showed up the ladies division entries with Imelda Agustin placing second and Misako Ogiharo checking in third.

Wilson Sports Philippines, through its general manager, JunJun Plana, sponsored the event.

Meanwhile, Eagle Ridge recently held its first monthly bowling tournament at its state-of-the-art alleys with Sese Montejo, Don de los Santos, El Ramirez and Joe Uychingco emerging as the top four finishers. The field went through a special qualifying with the top four colliding in step-ladder matches.

Eagle Ridge project director

Wini Gob said that more sports events are being lined up for members, dependents and guests especially now that most of the facilities are open. Aside from golf and bowling, Eagle also has facilities for basketball, tennis, badminton and swimming with its highly popular resort-type pool.

Domo captures 'moto' crown

DAREDEVIL Alvin Domo outshone the rest to emerge the best rider in the Guardosports 2003 Invitational Flat Track Motocross Championships held recently at the Surigao del Sur Institute of Technology Sports Complex in Cantilan, Surigao.

Displaying a no-fear attitude, Domo ruled the premier Open/Elite Division, beating all comers rivals from Cebu City, Manila, Butuan, Agusan, Cagayan de Oro, Davao City and Tandag, including RT Riders' Jerry Recones and Pupit Frias who settled for second and third, respectively.

Frias, however, came back strongly by taking the plum in the Executive Division of this one-day extravaganza jointly organized by the Guardo Sports Foundation and the municipality of Cantilan led by mayor Tomasa Guardo. Placing second and third were Dondon Casinsinan and Itok Luna.

SPORTSWATCH

Antonio remains undefeated

GRANDMASTER Rogelio "Joey" Antonio scored his fifth point on the strength of four wins and two draws after the sixth round of 3rd Bangkok International Open and remained undefeated at the Amari Orchid Resort, Pattaya in Bangkok, Thailand. Antonio forced a draw against GM Alexei Barsov of Uzbekistan and defending champion GM Ruslan Pogorelov of Ukraine in the fifth and sixth rounds, respectively. Earlier, the Calapan, Mindoro native registered four straight wins at the expense of Terry Noff of Norway, Myanmar prodigy Wynn Zaw Thun, VG Negi and IM Rahul Shetty of India, respectively. Also with five points are GM Barsov, GM Pogorelov, IM Atanu Lahiri of India and IM Myo Naing of Myanmar who demolished another RP bet GM Buenaventura "Bong" Villamayor in the sixth round. A total of 80 players are participating in the chessfest. *Marlon Bernardino*

Iligan chesser shines in Mati

NATIONAL Master Fernandito Pialan of Iligan City edged candidate master Cesar Apalla of Koronadal City, 30-0-28.5, to emerge champion in the recent 3rd Mindanao Friendship Games at the Mati Tourism Complex in Mati, Davao Oriental. Pialan and Apalla, the former Rizal Technological University—Mandaluyong City standout, tallied identical 6.0 points apiece but Pialan had the better quotient to bag the gold in the 7-round swiss system National Chess Federation of the Philippines (NCFP)-sanctioned tournament which attracted 46 woodpushers. The meet was supported by the Philippine Sports Commission and the local government of Mati, Davao Oriental. Pialan scored wins over Rolando Cebedo of Ozamiz City, Arnold Durana of Sultan Kudarat, Paulo James Florendo of Zamboanga City, Harrison Maamo and NM Samuel Yu of Davao City. *Marlon Bernardino*

Black cage clinic returns Nov. 8

INTERESTED young basketeers can still enlist with the Burlington Basketball Skills Camp with Norman Black as it returns on Nov. 8 at Phelps Dodge Gym, Pioneer St., Mandaluyong. The cage clinic, which will be held 9 a.m. to 12 noon for seven Saturdays, is open to boys and girls aged 12 to 18 years old. The Burlington socks-sponsored camp aims to further develop the basketball skills of young players through advanced training conducted by the pros. Black, the multi-titled coach and Burlington endorser, will be joined in the clinic by former PBA basketeers Samboy Lim, Hector Calma, Chito Loyzaga, Eric Reyes, Biboy Ravanes and other coaches. Camp fee is P3,000. For inquiries, call 894-3576, or proceed to Unit 222 Cityland 8, Buendia, Makati.

National Masters trackfest reset

THE NATIONAL Masters Track and Field Championship originally scheduled for Oct. 25-26 at the Cebu City Sports Center has been reset to Nov. 29-30. Tournament director Raffy Uytiepo said the event has to be moved as it falls on the same date with the Palarong Pambansa where most of the expected participants are assisting either as meet officials or delegation members. The Cebu Masters would be devoid of former track stars including Asia's ex-fastest woman, Mona Sulaiman, SEA Games veterans Dorie Cortejo, Linda Lavandia, Rey Antoque, Saturnino Salazar, Danny Jarina and Edgardo Pedregoza, if the event is pushed through, said Uytiepo. Registration is now ongoing at the PSC office Region 7 at the Cebu City Sports Center. For more inquiries, call the Secretariat at (032) 255-0090 or the tournament director at 09179163032.

Super Cup football gets going

THE "GLOBE Super Cup" football tournament kicked off recently in three different pitches across Metro Manila with thrashings, nail-biters, frustrations and jubilations that come along with the passion for the game. Philippine Air Force gave Sunken Garden FC a 22-0 beating and UST did its bit with an 11-0 massacre of Faith Academy. "Ang Liga" champion San Beda posted a 2-0 win over College of St. Benilde but NCR's double champs Kaya scored an easy 7-1 victory over Lateo FC. Manila All-Japan FC defeated University of Makati 12-2; Army routed Laos FC 9-0; and the Presidents Men won, 6-0, over Onze FC. Featured games today Sunday are UST against Navy in España, Nomads-A versus Manila All-Japan at the Nomads pitch while Air Force takes on Union FC at the Ascom pitch in Fort Bonifacio.

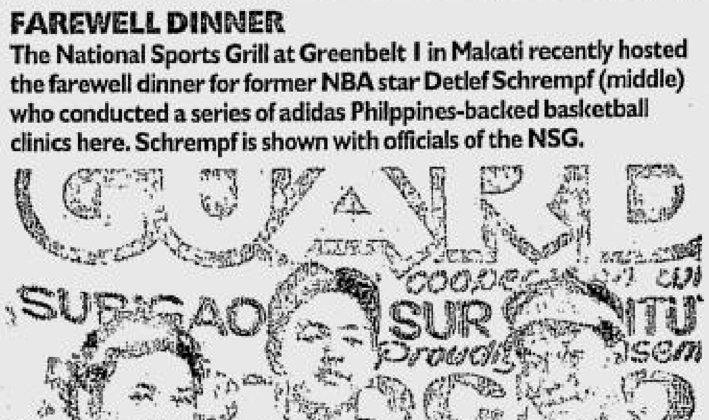
Ucap derby entries submission today

OFFICIAL entries to the 3rd Ucap 7-Stag Derby must be submitted today at the Araneta Coliseum green gate from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.. Participants may contact 911-3101 or 911-2928 for details. About 45 entries are entered in this derby, according to hosts Jet Fernando and Alex Tang. Elimination round starts at 5 p.m. tomorrow, Oct. 27, while the finals is on Wednesday, Oct. 29. Ucap and NCA members are expected to face a tough challenge from provincial cockfighting giants like Arnold Mendoza, Otic Geroso, Elwin Javelosa, Itoy Sison and Al Garcia of Bacolod, Kenneth Chau and Chito Tinsay of Iloilo, Rudy Jingco, Madlambayan Brothers and Bong Pineda of Pampanga, Tony Lasala, Boy de Roca, Jun and Anthony Marasigan of Batangas, Pol Estrellado, Blandy Tolentino and Joey de los Santos of Laguna, Jessie Viceo, Bobbit Pies, Ruel Ricafort and Danny Ty.

Fistorama elimination bout on 9

Samsung's Fistorama today features an exciting eight-round elimination bout in the light-flyweight division. PingPing Tepora of Cebu's Stonewall Boxing Stable faces Totoy Rubillar of the Elorde Boxing Stable. The winner will advance to the finals and fight for the Fistorama light-flyweight championship in December. The fight was held last week at the state-of-the-art Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Bicutan, Taguig. Samsung's Fistorama, now on its second year, is aired at 2 p.m., Sundays, on RPN 9 and is backed by Samsung Electronics Phils. Corp., Golf Power follows the boxing favorite at 3 p.m.

FAREWELL DINNER
The National Sports Grill at Greenbelt I in Makati recently hosted the farewell dinner for former NBA star Detlef Schrempf (middle) who conducted a series of adidas Philippines-backed basketball clinics here. Schrempf is shown with officials of the NSG.



MOTOCROSS CHAMP
Jonathan Guardo (left), president and CEO of sponsor Osaka Iridology, and tournament director Genito Guardo hand the trophy to Jed Luna, champion of the Novice 125 Stock Exclusive Division of the Guardosports 2003 Invitational Motocross Championships held recently in Cantilan, Surigao del Sur.

'The King' returns today

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

I STOPPED my twice-a-month visit to my favorite barber ever since Wind Blown lost in the First Gentleman's Silver Cup six months ago.

But I had my head shaven clean again because "The King" of Philippine racing is making his much-awaited comeback today, in the 11th race, to be exact.

"Now I know, Sir, *kung bakit nagpatubo ka uli ng buhok nang matalo si* Wind Blown last April," my Silip Boy told me, finally knowing the secret why I grew my hair back, albeit slowly, and veer away from the skinhead look which I've been sporting since the year 2000.

So at last, the long wait is over.

The *bayang karerista* can forget, in the meantime, the slew of recent negative racing stories on gun-pointing, err, cell-phone-pointing, horse importation, flop racing festival and *isnaban* at the press con, and try to become part of history again as Wind Blown runs to flex his muscles anew.

If those "black eyes" mentioned above dimmed local racing this year, Wind Blown's comeback certainly gives it a certified glow.

His comeback is the main reason why me and my Silip Boy—and perhaps all my fellow *kareristas*—would be at the Santa Ana Park today.

We're all very excited, of course.

After warming up in the barrier trial last Tuesday afternoon, we'd like to find out if Hermie Esguerra's *pambato* still possesses those long, powerful strides, and if he would click under Jeffril Zarate.

Moreover, racing fans are eager to know if Wind Blown's return means he has fully recovered from the foot injury he suffered recently at the "*wa*-class" racetrack in Carmona, Cavite.

If so, then everyone can already smell that "The King" might be fielded in the coming Philtobo-Mitra Cup Classic, another blockbuster event slated at the Makati race venue two weeks from now.

Today, the culmination of the Sta. Lucia Realty racefest, is a big day indeed at the Santa Ana Park which is expected to be jammed to the rafters. Let's all be there.

***

Why did the Philracom snub the recent press launch of the 4th Philtobo-Mitra Cup Championships? *Wala man lang pinadalang* representative.

Only recently, Philracom's top officials were at the "*wa*-class" racetrack in Cavite, showing their support to an unpopular group's *pakarera* which turned out to be another big-time flop.

Mahina ba ang Philtobo *sa* Philracom? Just asking.

In the meantime, Chairman Jimmy Dilag, the *bayang karerista* said, has a lot of explaining to do.

***

By the way, the $14-million Breeders' Cup is also up today at the "Home of Seabiscuit," the Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California.

Despite the weakened field, the Classic, one of eight championships scheduled, should still be the race to watch.

Top pick this year is Medaglia d'Oro, who has been installed the 3-1 favorite following the pullout of Horse of the Year candidate Mineshaft, Candy Ride and Empire Maker.

Expected to crowd Medaglia d'Oro are Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Funny Cide, Congaree, Ten Most Wanted and Perfect Drift. Volponi, 0-7 since shocking the field last year, will try to do a repeat, also as a longshot.

***

The skinny-nosed supersonic jet called the Concorde soared for the last time (from New York to London) last Friday but local fans need not despair because the only one of that kind still in flight can be found here.

That is in the form of the Mushi Mushi-Rare Rusty Rose filly who won the Floirendo Cup a week ago.

Concorde, one of the H.S. Esguerra Stable's mighty fleet of horses, is expected to fly again in the 4th Philtobo-Mitra Cup.

BREEDERS' CUP

Anybody's race tipped in Classic

FUNNY Cide heads back to the stables Friday after training for the Breeders' Cup Classic. AFP

PERFECT Soul takes an early morning walk. AFP

ARCADIA, California—Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Funny Cide is far from a clear-cut favorite for America's richest race.

The same could be said of defending Breeders' Cup Classic champion Volponi or Travers Stakes winner Ten Most Wanted.

And Mineshaft, the leading Horse of the Year contender, isn't even running.

The favorite's role for Saturday's $4-million Classic at Santa Anita will probably fall to Medaglia d'Oro, a 4-year-old colt who couldn't win last year's race after a long layoff and comes into this one off the same eight-week break.

"He runs good when he's fresh, and I didn't want to waste a race on him before the big race," said Medaglia d'Oro's trainer, Bobby Frankel. "I think he'll run well."

Welcome to the wide open Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships.

The centerpiece of the eight-race, $14-million extravaganza, the Classic features a star-studded field of 10.

"That's why this day is so unique: It brings the best horses together from all over," said Julie Krone, who will ride Funny Cide for the first time. "If we win, absolutely Funny Cide will have a chance at Horse of the Year."

Funny Cide isn't alone. Mineshaft is the clear leader for racing's top award with seven wins in nine starts this year, but several Classic scenarios could sway the voters.

Among them are wins by:

- Funny Cide, who finished second in the Wood Memorial and third in the Belmont Stakes and Haskell Invitational in addition to his Triple Crown victories.
- Medaglia d'Oro, who has done little wrong in taking three of four starts, with a runner-up finish to Candy Ride in the Pacific Classic.
- Perfect Drift, who beat Mineshaft in the Stephen Foster Handicap and has five victories in seven starts in 2003.

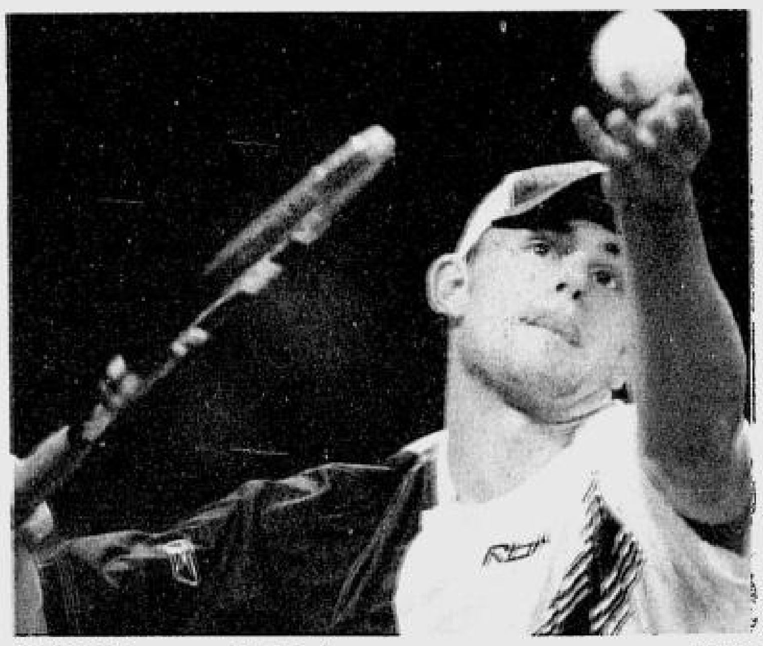
Congaree is another horse to watch. Trained by Bob Baffert, the 5-year-old son of Arazi won the Hollywood Gold Cup and was second to Perfect Drift in the Kentucky Cup Handicap at Turfway Park.

While a speed-favoring track, hot weather and possible heavy smoke hovering overhead from nearby wildfires might affect racing conditions, Baffert said the key to victory is simple: "Who has the heart and the ability. To win it, you have to throw in a huge performance."

Divisional titles are also on the line, starting with trainer Barclay Tagg's quest to snare the 3-year-old male championship for Funny Cide, the popular New York-bred gelding who hasn't run in nearly three months.

Funny Cide was a surprise entry last week. Tagg thought about running Funny Cide in two other New York races, but several strong workouts—and lobbying from his owners—convinced him the Classic made the most sense. *AP*

Roddick wallops Belgian, faces Nalbandian in semis



RODDICK serves against Rochus. REUTERS

BASEL, Switzerland—Top-seeded Andy Roddick beat Belgium's Olivier Rochus, 6-4, 6-4, Friday in the Swiss Indoors, and set up a semifinal against defending champion David Nalbandian.

Fourth-seeded Nalbandian downed former two-time winner Tim Henman, 6-2, 6-4, and boosted his hopes of securing one of the two remaining slots in the top-eight Masters Cup next month.

He and Roddick will meet for the first time since their US Open semifinal, when Nalbandian won the first two sets but lost in five.

When asked how he'd handle Roddick's blistering serve, Nalbandian said, "Like always."

Nalbandian said he felt rested since an injury-enforced break after the US Open.

In Saturday's other semifinal, No. 3 seed Guillermo Coria, who trounced Spain's Feliciano Lopez, 6-1, 6-2, will play Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic, who downed Nicolas Lapentti of Ecuador, 2-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Henman said he was given no chance by Nalbandian, who has won four of their five encounters.

"He deserves to be at the Masters," Henman said. "He is probably one of the most underrated players around. He's very, very difficult to beat,"

Henman won the Swiss Indoors in 1998 and 2001 and reached the final in 1999. The Englishman has slipped from No. 4 to No. 32, and been hampered by a shoulder injury. *AP*

Clijsters wins

LUXEMBOURG—Top-seeded Kim Clijsters beat Emilie Loit of France, 6-4, 7-5, Friday to reach the semifinals of the SEAT Open.

Second-seeded Chanda Rubin also went through, but only after Alicia Molik of Australia was forced to retire with a foot injury when she was ahead, 7-5, 4-5.

Clijsters, the two-time defending champion, has a semifinal on Saturday against fifth-seeded Maria Sharapova, who came from behind to beat Anca Barna of Germany, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Rubin will meet Marlene Weingartner of Germany, who upset third-seeded Eleni Daniilidou, 6-2, 6-1. *AP*

Material Maker heads Sampaguita tilt cast

THE P1-MILLION Philracom Sampaguita Stakes will be the featured event when racing action returns to the San Lazaro Leisure Park starting tomorrow.

Host Manila Jockey Club Inc. will unveil another superb lineup of races culminating in the running of the Distaff Championship on Nov. 2.

MJCI's weeklong racing schedule includes four days of night racing from Monday (Oct. 27), through Thursday (Oct. 30) and two full cards of 14 and 13 races each on Friday (Oct. 31) and Sunday (Nov. 2), respectively. No races have been scheduled for All Saints' Day (Nov. 1), a nationwide holiday.

The Sampaguita Stakes features the best fillies and mares in the local racing scene.

Set over a distance of 1,900 meters, the race has attracted a field of 12 nominated entries including recent Golden Girls Stakes winner Material Maker, champion filly Golden Ballet and 2003 Gran Copa de Manila champion Hazmoore.

Others in the hunt are Bulakeña, Dandansoy, Mica's Magic, My Preperido, Namste, Serena, Successful Dream, War Hero and Windlass.

Henri Kahn, MJCI vice president for corporate management said the winner of the race gets P600,000, second P225,000, third P125,000 and fourth P50,000.

Tomorrow's races at the SLLP start at 6 p.m.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Shock and Awe 2. Joker
Race 2—1. Empire King 2. Speed O War/Speed King 3. Cat's Jewel 4. Desert Deb
Race 3—1. Cash McCall 2. Jessie James 3. Letshaveaparty
Race 4—1. Latin Music 2. Heza Gunner 3. Pirouette/Yonder Girl 4. Sir Guguy 5. Perfect Time
Race 5—1. Adam's Call 2. Speed Machine 3. Red Star Rising 4. Renowned
Race 6—1. Royal Catch 2. Throttle 3. Cycles
Race 7—1. Kiss Me Quick 2. American Beauty 3. Jerolds' Dream 4. Rose and Toy 5. Ichiro
Race 8—1. Arriba King 2. Crystal Show 3. Perfect Storm 4. Hyperbid
Race 9—1. Midnight Lady 2. West Bound 3. Neat Laurel/Crystal Show 4. Absolute Charmer
Race 10—1. Ryuji 2. Power Pack
Race 11—1. Wind Blown 2. Silver Story 3. Real Slew 4. All for Glory 5. Baggirl
Race 12—1. Crystal City 2. Real Tough 3. Eral Gray 4. Classic Royale
Race 13—1. Golden Lance 2. Loose Cannon 3. Lady Lawyer 4. Prickly Heat 5. Max's Princess
Race 14—1. Peek A Boo 2. Lance 3. D'Greatest 4. Roppongi 5. Compañero 6. Master Strategist

RACING PARTNERS
Officials of the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization and Philippine Racing Club Inc. are shown with Joaquin Mitra and Rep. Abraham Mitra (third and fourth from left) during the launching of the 4th Philtobo-Mitra Cup Racing Festival recently. The racefest is slated Nov. 4-9 at the Santa Ana Park. Also in photo (from left) are Philtobo president Bienvenido "Nonoy" Niles Jr., Philtobo chair Antonio Lagdameo, PRCI VP for racing Fernando Maramag and PRCI SVP for finance Allan Abesamis.

Marlins gun for clincher today

NEW YORK—Andy Pettitte freely admits he figured the Florida Marlins were finished even before the World Series. He wasn't alone.

"People still don't believe we can do it, because it's the Yankees," Marlins leadoff man Juan Pierre said.

Holding a 3-2 edge over New York, ace Josh Beckett and the wild-card Marlins can wrap up one of Major League Baseball's more improbable World Series championships in Game 6 Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila).

"I just want one more win, and then we'll hand out the ulcer medicine in the off-season," Florida third baseman Mike Lowell said.

Florida comes into chilly Yankee Stadium after withstanding a pair of ninth-inning rallies by New York. Then again, the Marlins have shown a knack for knocking down the odds—they dropped the opener to San Francisco in the division series, then overcame a 3-1 deficit to beat the Chicago Cubs in the NL championship series.

"I was one of those guys that thought their series against Chicago was over," Pettitte said Friday. "I didn't think they'd be able to go there and beat (Mark) Prior and (Kerry) Wood in Wrigley."

Pettitte, who won Game 2 of the World Series while working on three days' rest, will be entrusted with saving the Yankees' season. Going into this start, he's tied with John Smoltz for the career postseason record of 13 victories.

"We've never been down like this since we began our World Series run," Pettitte said. "You don't want to watch another team celebrate on your field, that's for sure."

Trying to give his team its best chance, Marlins manager Jack McKeon is taking the biggest gamble of his 50-plus years in baseball.

BECKETT: Three-day rest AFP

For the first time in his career, Beckett will start on three days' rest. And if the Yankees win, Florida's Carl Pavano will do the same in Game 7.

Mark Redman will be skipped in the rotation, and Dontrelle Willis will remain in the bullpen as McKeon tempts fate—and bucks a recent trend—by planning to use Beckett and Pavano on short rest.

"We're going to go with our two best pitchers," McKeon said. "We know that everybody wonders why you should, wonders why you shouldn't. You're damned if you do, you're damned if you don't."

From 1999-'03, pitchers working on three or fewer days' rest in the postseason have fared poorly. In 37 such starts, they've gone 6-20 with a 5.93 ERA, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Among the star pitches who have lost in those situations: Tom Glavine (three times), Roger Clemens, Greg Maddux, Bartolo Colon, Mike Hampton, Barry Zito and David Wells. *AP*

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Immigration hitch hounds Luisito fight vs African

By Percy D. Della, *Correspondent*

SACRAMENTO, California—Luisito Espinosa is inching closer to "The Prizefighter."

But the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is pushing the statuette away from the Filipino boxer's reach.

The Prizefighter is a bronze piece depicting a boxer in a basic fighting stance—a menacing scowl, his hands up, his body crouched and leaning forward like he's about to pounce on an opponent.

ESPINOSA

It is the coveted award given starting three years ago to inductees into the World Boxing Hall of Fame.

The 35-year-old Espinosa resides in Pacifica, near San Francisco. He is training hard for a scheduled fight with Cassius Baloyi for the South African's IBO superfeatherweight crown on Dec. 19 in Manila.

If the Tondo native beats Baloyi, he would enter the record books as the first Asian to bag three world titles in three separate weight divisions—having previously held the WBA bantamweight and WBC featherweight belts.

But in order to attain a feat worthy of enshrinement into the California-based World Boxing Hall of Fame and the rival International Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, New York—Espinosa must first secure a parole visa from the INS.

With an I-140 visa approved four years ago for his exceptional ability as a professional boxer and world champion, Luisito is waiting to become a permanent resident.

Should he travel to Manila without the parole visa for the Luneta fight with Baloyi, Luisito's application for a green card may be cancelled and he could be barred from re-entering the US.

Noel Rivera, Espinosa's bosom friend and handler, has written California US Rep. Pete Stark to help speed up the release of the parole visa.

Rivera told Stark that despite Luisito's efforts "to adjust his status for permanent residency, he has been denied his due since August 1999."

Rivera's letter continued: "To millions of American boxing fans and Filipino-Americans who recognize a true sports hero, Luisito has exemplified the grace and perseverance of a professional athlete. He has embodied the ideals of the Muhammad Ali Act. He is the father of two American citizens, a loving husband and a great role model."

Espinosa is also seeking the parole visa on humanitarian grounds. The Manila trip will afford him and his family the chance to see his terminally ill father and his ailing mother-in-law.

While in Manila, the boxer will be able to press his case against former South Cotabato Gov. Larry de Pedro who owes him about $130,000 for a 1997 sixth round knockout of the Argentine Carlos Rios in Koronadal.

Luisito's inability to collect his purse was followed by a great tragedy when he lost his WBC featherweight title to Cesar Soto in El Paso, Texas, on May 15, 1999. The judges awarded the fight to the Mexican from nearby Juarez, Mexico, in a fight clearly won by Espinosa.

And then there were those occasions when reigning champions refused to stake their titles against a dangerous opponent in the two-time Filipino titleholder.

Veteran newsman Hermie Rivera, Noel's father and Espinosa's first manager, considers the INS inaction the "unkindest cut of all" for Luisito.

"The INS bureaucratic jumble will rob boxing fans of a boxing blockbuster," Hermie told the INQUIRER in an e-mail.

Gabi impressive

KIDAPAWAN CITY—Diosdado "Prince" Gabi has been punishing his sparmates as he prepares for his Nov. 9 title showdown with World Boxing Council International flyweight champ Randy Mangubat.

The 12-round clash between the 24-year-old southpaw Gabi (23-2-1, 19 KOs) and the bull-strong Mangubat (31-18-11, 14 KOs) is set at Kidapawan's North Cotabato Provincial Gymnasium.

Promoter Soc Piñol said he was forced to "import" sparmates after local boxers complained of being battered by the talented Gabi. *Salven Lagumbay, Contributor*

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Are you 100%?
IMMUVIT

Advice on how to be a CEO: Overcome fear

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

LIKE other six-year-old children, Randall R. Lozano learned his alphabet and his numbers. But he learned something else besides.

In 1973, he learned how to earn his own money from selling boiled bananas in the afternoons after school.

A son of a security guard at the Philam Village in Quezon City and a full-time housewife, Lozano had no choice but to try and help put food on the table for the family.

Lozano tells SundayBiz he sold the boiled bananas for about 10 to 15 centavos each, and peddled them around West Avenue.

When he turned nine, he made a career shift and started selling newspapers. He woke up as early as 3 or 4 in the morning to get the newspapers, then sell them up to around 10 a.m.

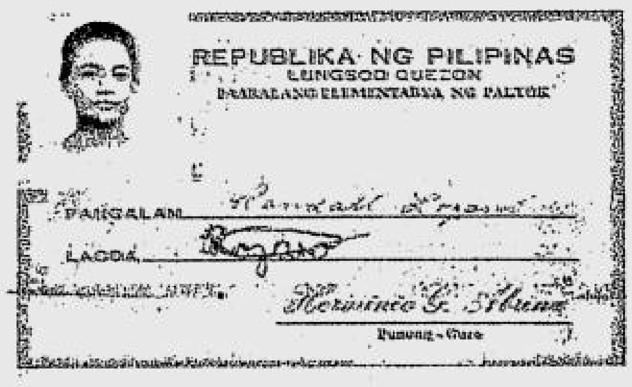
"I went around West Triangle and San Francisco del Monte selling my newspapers and my last stop would always be what used to be the Paramount Theater at the corner of West Ave. and Edsa. I would get a spot there and put my newspapers on display, hoping that people would buy from me," Lozano recalls.

He sold papers for two years until he saw a branch of the Bakahan and Manukan along West Ave. and thought that he could earn more by being a "watch and wash your car" boy. He would be there from 6 in the evening until midnight and the shift left him enough time to do his school work.

"I asked permission from the branch manager and when he allowed me to be a wash your car boy, I gave up selling newspapers. When I earned some money, I also started to sell cigarettes because I noticed that most of the customers asked for it," Lozano says.

It was one of Lozano's first lessons in spotting sales opportunities that turned the former boiled banana vendor into the president and general manager of the Philippine arm of Sybase Solutions Corp., the world's fourth largest software company, behind Microsoft and Oracle, and a leading player in the systems integration business.

RANDALL at 7



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
LUNGSOD QUEZON
PAARALANG ELEMENTARYA NG PALTOK

PANGALAN Randall Lozano
LAGDA Lozano

Herminio G. Albino
Punong-Guro

FIRST JOB

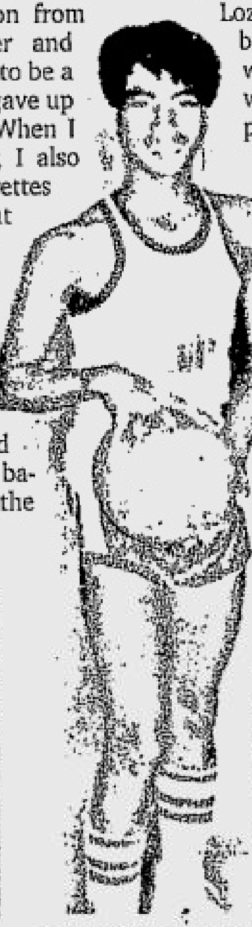
Lozano says his parents were actually against the idea of him doing odd jobs to earn extra money because they were concerned that it would affect his studies.

As his parents always said: "Education is the only thing that we could give you so strive hard and study well." It was their way out of a life of poverty and a small home made of wood, which was often damaged whenever a strong typhoon hit the city.

Despite his parents' concerns, Lozano continued to work because he saw nothing wrong with it, even if he was in the constant company of street children.

"One of my mother's friends even said that I would go nowhere because most of my friends were streetchildren. There were rugby boys and frat members whom I got to know well during my time on the street," he says.

Lozano says he persevered and balanced his studies in the public schools from elementary to high school with work because he wanted to learn by himself how it felt like to earn money, thus making him appreciate his parents' efforts more.



PLAYING ball at 14

Older friends

"Another thing that I noticed was that all my best friends, from elementary to college, were all at least five years older than me. Probably that was why I matured at an earlier age. My friends unwittingly became my first mentors," he says.

His exposure, combined with the values of honesty and simplicity that he learned from his parents, served Lozano well through school. He initially wanted to take up law but his father dissuaded him, saying that it would take much longer to finish law and they might not be able to afford it.

Parents pick course

"So I just asked them what course they wanted me to take in college. They told me to go through an engineering course in Adamson since it was close to my father's workplace on UN Avenue," he says.

The 36-year-old thus ended up with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering. Because of his exemplary track record in school, he was asked to be part of the Adamson faculty and he taught there up to 1991 when he was hired by ASB Realty Corp. as a technical supervisor reporting directly to the vice president for the management information system.

Lozano moved through different companies climbing up the corporate ladder until 1997, when he moved to Sybase Phils. Inc. as sales manager. From there he went to Microsoft Phils. Inc. One of his responsibilities was to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for recruiting business partners with Microsoft.

He stayed with Microsoft from Oct. 1998 to June 2000, after which he moved to ImGAME.Com Philippines as vice president and chief operating officer. He was tasked to set up of the company's operating processes.

In December 2001, he went back to Sybase Phils. as sales director, a position he held for close to two years before he was named president and general manager in March this year.

RANDALL today

Lozano says he put all his energies into his work, from the time he was six years old, that he did not notice that he was on his way to becoming a CEO.

Didn't notice

"To be honest, I did not notice when and where was my turning point. I just kept working and doing my best in my workplace. I was not really after promotions. I just liked to work and work and, luckily, I got rewarded. I always kept my focus and vision that one day, I would also be on top," Lozano says.

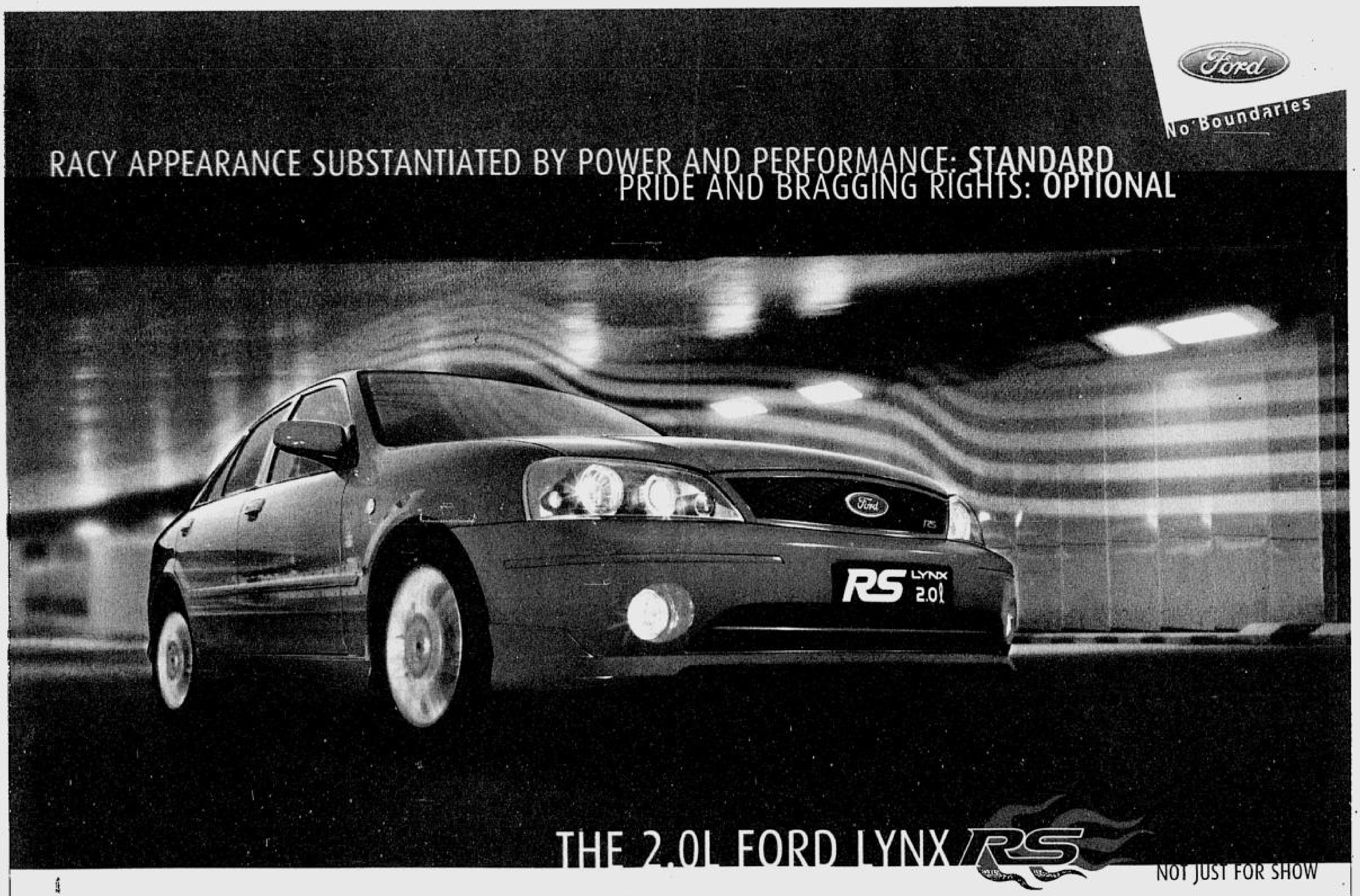
He says he learned something from all the people he worked with in his career, but he considers Sybase's Delfin Hallare as the one person who really helped him become who he is today.

Improve on charm

"He would always tell me that I should improve on my charm and always understand a given situation before making any decision," Lozano says.

He stresses that his way up the ladder was strewn with many barriers that he had to overcome, and many times he failed in what he set out to do. But instead of being discouraged, he learned what he

ADVICE / B2



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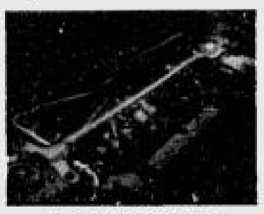

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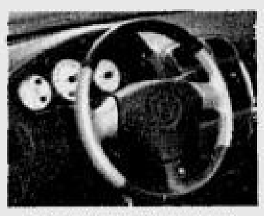

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(L-R) UnionBank directors Antonio Moraza, Johnny Araneta and Vicente Ayllon

(L-R) Erramon Aboitiz, EVP & COO Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.; Rolly de la Cruz of Unilab, and Jon Ramon Aboitiz, president & CEO, Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.

Bank bats for more confidence in doing paperless transactions

UNIONBANK of the Philippines and mySecureSign Inc. (mSSI) launches "Signed, Sealed & Delivered Digital: e-security without compromise," a senior level advocacy that aims to propagate the use of digital certificates in all electronic transactions.

The event highlights how the economy increasingly becomes digital and faceless, and the value of adapting trust and security services in this environment. The advocacy is also geared towards increasing user confidence in paperless transactions, to help propel the country's e-commerce initiatives forward.

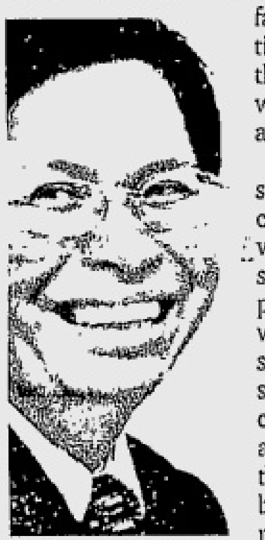
Industry experts were present to share their extensive knowledge on trust services and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), including how these technologies will shape and change conventional business and legal practice. Unionbank and mSSI spearhead the occasion to provide an opportunity for top business leaders to be exposed to globally-accepted security technology that will realize paperless transactions.

Justo A. Ortiz, UnionBank chair and chief executive officer delivered the opening remarks while Manuel V. Pangilinan, PLDT president and chief executive officer gave the senior advocacy message.

"While we, in UnionBank, are happy with the progress of B2B over the last 5 years, B2B going further downstream to the retailers and distributors is still to happen in a big way, partly because many are not convinced of the security of the internet," stated Ortiz.

"We are here to advocate the use of a digital ID to replace our signatures. It will be issued by a trusted third party certificate authority, Verisign mySecureSign Inc., within a secure environment of a Public/Private Key Infrastructure or PKI," he added.

"This event reflects the true spirit and intent of e-commerce, which is to deliver an unquestionably secure digital transaction," Luis O. Gopez, mSSI president and general manager said. "These security solutions put a face on the transaction and nurtures the confidence towards transactions and e-commerce."



HERMINIO Pugeda, EVP of UnionBank

MANUEL V. Pangilinan, president and CEO of PLDT

VICTOR Valdepeñas, president and COO of UnionBank

mSSI, an ePLDT subsidiary and principal affiliate of world leader in trust services VeriSign, has provided Unionbank with a managed PKI solution which serves to provide client authentication and secure access to the Unionbank e-banking facility, legal recognition and non-repudiation of transactions and communications. This is achieved primarily through mSSI's issuance and verification of digital certificates, including the policy and processing in accordance with VeriSign's certification practices. This enhances the bank's e-banking applications by providing an integrated solution and higher security levels for the market that is getting more sophisticated.

PKI, or public key infrastructure is a system that enables secure and private exchange of money, data and communications over an inherently exposed environment such as the Internet. This managed PKI solution will provide Unionbank customers authentication and secure access to its electronic banking system.

Unionbank executive vice president and head of Corporate Product Banking Center Hermie Pugeda, said, "VeriSign is a global leader in PKI solutions. Its application on our e-banking facility reflects our strong commitment to provide best-of-class services to our valued clients."

(L-R) Richard Cookes, GM& VP Sales, ActivCard Asia in a handshake with Justo Ortiz, chairman & CEO, UnionBank as Ed Elliff, executive manager, Verisign Australia, looks on.

Tenants attest to success formula of location, location, location

PERHAPS the oldest adage in terms of wheeling and dealing that we never learned from commerce school is that in any business, there are only three things to consider for fool-proof success: location, location and location.

In Libis' commercial and residential development, Eastwood City rises as a place where success and sales find a home. Home to some of the city's most frequented dining and retail establishments, Eastwood City stands witness to various success stories of its tenants.

BARGO owner Leonor Rivera

A BLACK forest and a cocoa steamer can be had at the McCafe.

Bargo: Bar of excellence

"We envisioned the bar to be the setting of Filipino excellence. We excel in sports, more so in billiards, so the pool tables are a natural fixture. Despite varying tastes, we all have a good ear for music and entertainment. And above all, our food is but the best, followed by our innate penchant for a good time and a good drink. All that is guaranteed in Bargo," proprietor Leonora Rivera says.

Rivera provides the necessary introduction to her entertainment complex that became home to week-ending youngsters and yuppie nightcap peers, growing to a 3-establishment enterprise in just two years.

With a ballpark figure that reaches to up to 1,200 heads in a weekend night, nothing it seems would keep Bargo's bottomless profit from brimming. With a menu that bar food built, lunches and dinners in Bargo become more than peas and peanuts.

Add to that the sparkling new notion of turning a bar into a tiny theme park, complete with arcade games, world-class pool tables and a chart-topping Videoke room, it's enough reason to hold Bargo responsible for the height of human-traffic in Eastwood's Citywalk.

But above all, as Rivera puts it, nothing beats a prime location in safeguarding a soaring success. "It's all a matter of accessibility. Eastwood had that in mind, by opening a development in the middle of everything. The parking is excellent, and despite the new developments we have now, we must admit, Eastwood started the trend in the al fresco wining and dining ambience, and for that alone, just who can't enjoy this kind of success?"

Jack's Loft: Built by cakes

As a breather from the highly commercial caffeine-capitalists, Jack's Loft rises as a break from the brew of the cookie-cutting café scene.

"Jack's Loft happens to be more than a café. It's a dessert bar, the first in the country," says Eric Cua, one-half of the visionary founding duo.

Much more than just desserts, Jack's Loft has long been a haven to the tireless operators and employees of the neighboring call centers, condo residents, and the young Manila elite who want a piece of pie for a nightcap. Its initial concept of strictly sweets grew into a lunch-dinner-after-hours treat for the tab in its initial 6-month soft opening.

The result is tremendous for the swanky, stylish cake complex, boasting of a regular 600 seating during weekends (400 on weekdays), and still making room for more, like a Crepe Bar which will serve both savory and dessert crepes, or a complete bar list that goes from cocktail to coffee infusions.

"Since it's very modern and stylish yet cheap and cozy, a lot of the young crowd favor this place. It's a nice place to be seen on, to spend hours on, to just let the night pass by. It's perfect for anyone who's young, hip and fun, basically the Eastwood crowd," the other half, Jack's Loft's John Tian Seng, says.

"That's the best thing about Eastwood. Its crowd is much different from the ones we see in other Libis establishments, or Quezon City for that matter. All in all, Megaworld itself is set to put a standard on the crowd, so there'll be little, if not zero worry on security, while maintaining a generous flow of customers," states Cua.

Mc Donald's: Gold address

Opening the only fast-food restaurant in a 'city' of fine-dining establishments and chic cafes may just be a formula made in sure-profit heaven.

"We are the first and only QSR (quick service restaurant) in Eastwood, and because of that, people do not have to go out of the Eastwood compound to get a quick and good value meal," explains Kenneth Yang, the main man of the McDonald's fast food chain.

The "people" he was referring to are just some of the 2,000-3,000 folks who hit the Eastwood golden arches per day.

"The Eastwood market is predominantly B and upper C with the occasional presence of the A market. Most of them are in the working class, young adults and teens," Kenneth furthermore explains, and while everyone agrees that no one is old enough for a Big Mac, Kenneth had to reassess the accustomed McDonald's kiddie format into a venue comfortable for kids aged 1-100.

"Since most of the weekday market is made up of young adults, we added a McCafé beside McDonald's. We also provided an outdoor seating area which serves as our smoking area for our late night users. We also constructed a party area to accommodate birthday parties during weekends," Kenneth says of the new format.

"I think there is a very good fit for McDonald's to be in Eastwood because Eastwood is a beautiful and modern complex catering to both business and social needs. McDonald's definitely appeals to the population of Eastwood," Kenneth discloses the aces of one of his chain's most promising stores.

Seattle's Best

Have a sip of their famed Javanilla, and we know, Seattle's Best has conquered the Manila café-dom, and it would be no surprise if the timeless moniker is replaced by a name closer to home.

But turning the clocks two years back, Seattle's Best Eastwood would be one of the less than five Seattle's Best establishments then standing in the country. Fast-forward to their present 12 branches today, one can't help but sense a pattern: Eastwood Citywalk may seem like an opening of progressive successes.

Owner Frederick Siy is not slow to admit on the triumph of his Eastwood branch. "It's one of our top stores. It has held the Top 2 slot consistently since our opening here," he notes of the rather pacesetting outlet.

"Actually, it's common sense. Not everyone who goes out drinks (alcohol), so we naturally reap the harvest of those non-alcoholic drinkers. Add to that the 24-hour call center employees, the resident joggers and fitness enthusiasts, the executives and the constant strolling families. Coffee is one of the most popular beverages in the world, and it just boils down to the location as far as consumer volume is concerned," he states.

FREDERICK Siy

Judging from Seattle's Best' move of opening yet another branch on Eastwood's new Cyber Mall, it seems like the classic coffee house has found its place in the "city that never sleeps."

West Lake: Prosperity

Good things, as they say, come in small packages, but let's not blame West Lake if it opted to turn its quaint kiosk-type dimsum enterprise into one of Eastwood's top attraction.

With bigger servings putting a twist on authentic Chinese plating, West Lake's reasonable pricing proves to be an underestimated success for their present 50-seater establishment.

But there's always room for more change, as its owner Richard Tansiongkun puts it, "The future of West Lake wouldn't only see a bigger seating capacity but also a more diversified menu."

Indeed a more promising West Lake, Tansiongkun goes back to its foundations as he maps out Eastwood's success. "To be in a cluster development such as this means a heavier traffic of people, which in turn, generates a more impulsive walk-in client. You need not read it from somewhere or stress on marketing strategies to achieve a good number of diners here in Eastwood. Everything is already provided for."

JACK's loft owners John Tian Seng and Eric Cua.

GEARING up for expansion

Advice on how to be a CEO . . .

From page B1

could from these failures and ended up a better decision-maker.

If someone came up to him and asked him for advice on how to be a CEO, Lozano would say that it is important to overcome fear, which he refers to as the oldest emotion known to man.

"Learn the lessons from every mistake and take all responsibility for actions and decisions and don't be afraid to take risks. If we don't take risks, we will never move forward. In my case, I failed and failed and failed so many times. And I say, each failure is part of the ladder on the way up," he says.

As CEO of Sybase, he says he wants to take the company's products into more industries such as banking and telecommunications.

"We also target courier companies and pharmaceutical companies. Right now our strength is in mobile and wireless technology. We also develop local solutions through partners," Lozano says.

He says his ultimate goal is to help the organization grow 10 times its size today, and perhaps after 10 years, he would start his own business and even his own family.

Lozano is one CEO who believes that having a family is a major factor in further success in the corporate world, and nobody knows that more than his proud parents.

RANDALL with his family (inset, his father Ricardo)

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Garment industry's loss is paper sector's gain

By Mei Magsino
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

TUY, Batangas—Hailed by international greeting card companies for its unique paper designs, Papelandia Arts and Crafts started out as a hobby for the Afable family of this town, who turned their former garments business into a paper company.

For the Afable twins, Ana Marie and Anabelle and their brothers–Emmanuel, Antonio Jr. and Fernando–the business is not just an ordinary business. Their products have reached the US, Europe and Japan.

"For us, it's also an artistic release because we are able to express what we want to convey, and at the same time, create something good that people could relate to," Ana Marie says. "But as early as the hobby stage, we had already registered Papelandia Arts and Crafts with the Department of Trade and Industry."

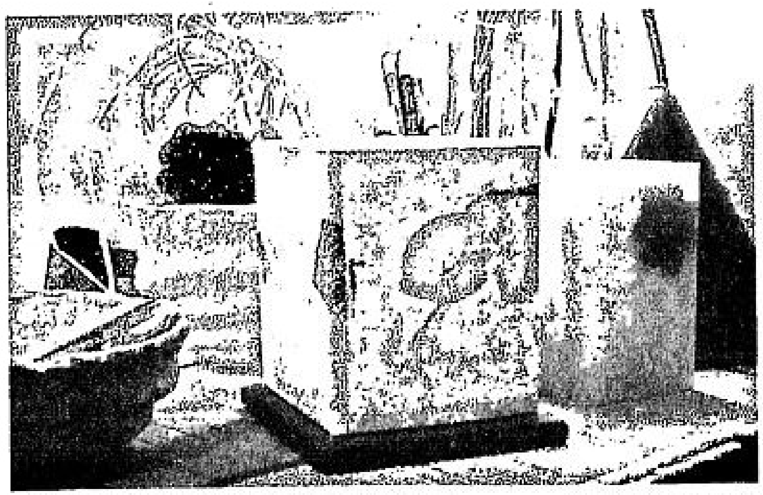
The Afable siblings' foresight in 1996 proved to be a good move.

Imitation

Though they were making good in the garment industry, the twins, their brother Emmanuel, and their mother started feeling a downturn of the business in the mid '90s, after some Chinese businessmen imitated their products and got into mass production.

The imitation produced en masse, lowered the costs of the products and created stiff competition.

Also, that time, the Kilusang Mayo Uno had meddled in the labor dispute in their garment business, forcing the company to shut down.


A SAMPLE of Papelandia's paper products PHOTOS BY MEI MAGSINO

After the strike, the company, which had about 300 people, closed and the workers left the town. But the Afables were left with the paper business.

The interest in paper arts started when Emmanuel and Anabelle studied the export business.

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

In one of the seminars they attended, they met DTI Undersecretary Nelly Villafuerte who, at that time, chaired the now-defunct Federation of Handmade Papers and who encouraged them to engage in paper arts venture.

Ana Marie, a Fine Arts graduate, attended seminars on paper arts at the Technology and Livelihood Resource Center and the University of the Philippines.

With only P25,000, they made invitation cards for different occasions, using their hands.

The site of the former garment business became their work area. Guests and friends of their clients were impressed by the designs and materials used in the cards. Demand grew. Satisfied clients spread the business.

After the cards came, artistic paper sheets, photo albums, picture frames, lampshades, notebooks, notepads, boxes, trays, bags, gift tags, gift boxes, pencil cases, cardholders, ballpens, paperbowls, stationeries, bookmarks, and paintings (in mixed media, water color, and acrylic).

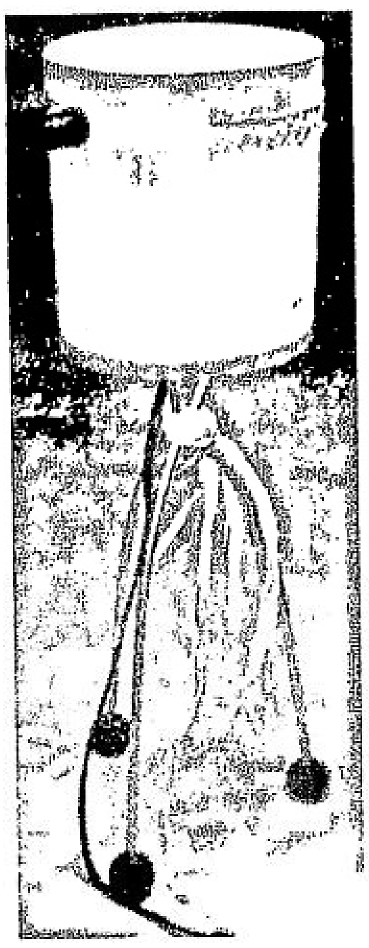
They were even able to produce desk boxes, file boxes, wallpapers, placemats and coasters. Even paper lace, which is very rare to find in malls and bookstores, was manufactured in their plant.

The Afables went into paper furnishing but it took long for Filipinos to accept the use of paper in furnishings.

Paper furnishing

In 1999, they started exporting their products after people who visited the National Trade Fair Exhibits saw their products. "Our Japanese clients liked the accents we made on the paper arts such as bamboo, flowers, ground coffee, terra cotta, and even volcanic sand from Taal," Anabelle says.

During the early stage of the business, the Afables used cogon and sugarcane bagasse. But the limited source of the bagasse was a problem.



They decided to use abaca from Bicol as it had better quality and sufficient supply.

Sometimes, they bought the abaca fiber from Manila.

When the business boomed, they bought the machines that now produce at least 10,000 paper sheets a month.

"The processing is done here at the former site of the garment plant, while the design is ours, done at home where we could create the most beautiful designs we could think of," Anabelle said.

Trade fairs

To get their products known to Manila clients, they decided to join trade fairs in 2000.

All their products on exhibit were sold to clients who visited the fair. According to Ana Marie, even their joining the trade fairs needed careful planning.

"You have to put in your best products and arrange them in such a way that every design won't overlap the other," Ana Marie says, "We even make the lay-out of our booths catchy and make sure each product stands out on its own."

During the Barakalan 2002 exhibits, representatives of the Sterling Inc., an international card and paper company, noticed their photo albums and notebooks, and immediately ordered more samples.

In the national trade fair last March 30, all of the exhibitors, including the Afables, were given seven designs to present. All of those designs were sold out.

Later, clients poured in, asking for more product samples that were then taken abroad.

On July 17, their products reached Frankfurt, Germany and other parts of Europe.

"What we're now planning is to expand the business to accommodate the growing demand," Ana Marie says.

Hands-on

Even with five sub-contractors to help them, Ana Marie says, they still do a hands-on management in the business.

"That's to ensure that the quality of the products pass the national and international standards," she adds. "We still manage, design, and make sure that the business operates smoothly." All four of them design the paper.

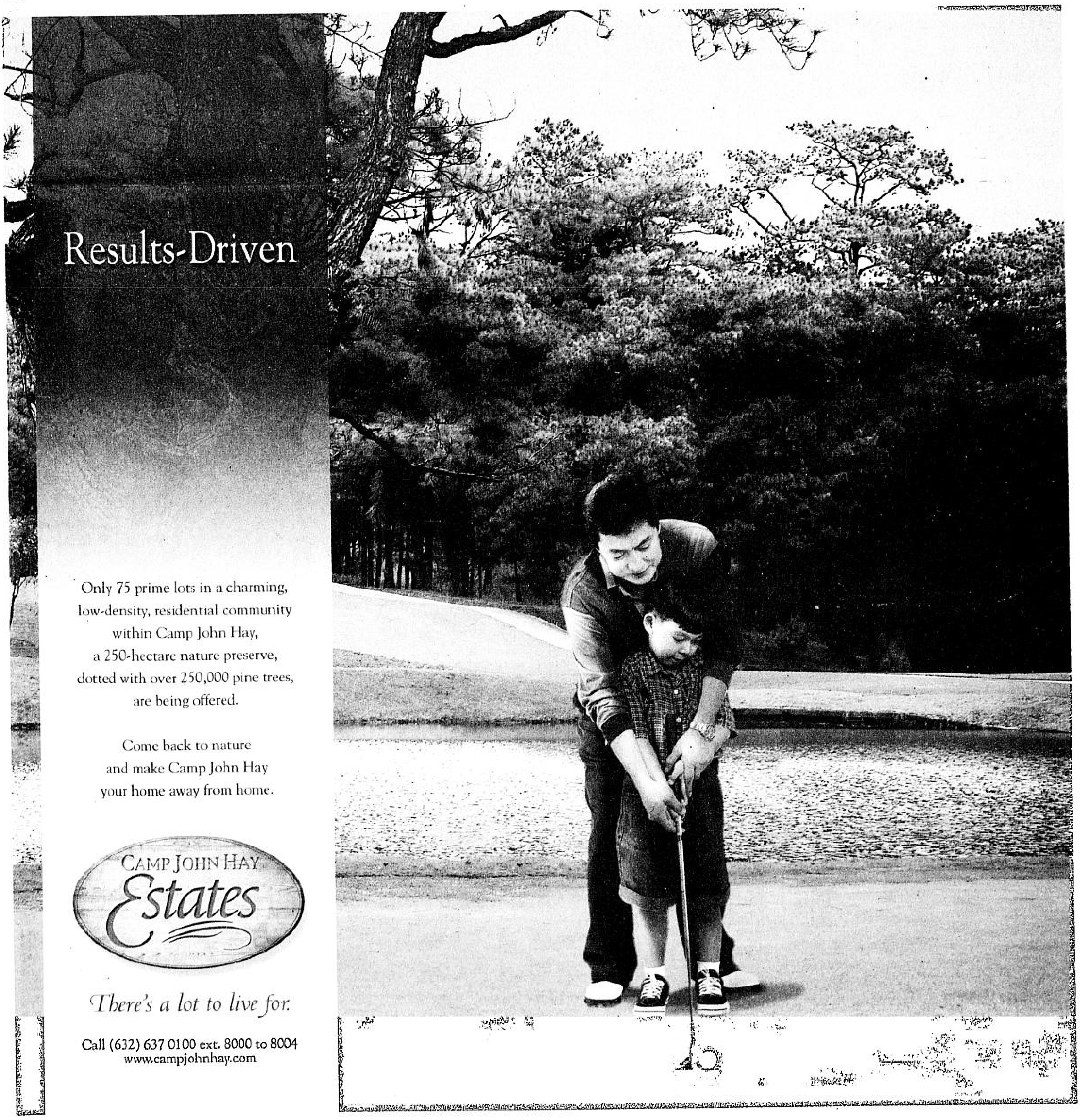
"We always have a new design. We create those designs that set the trend in paper art. That way, before the people get tired of the old trend, we have a new one they can look into," Ana Marie says.

Another technique that the Afables use is always finding better and cheaper sources for their materials.

"The best venue to get the original materials at lower costs and direct to the producer is during the trade fairs," Ana Marie says, "because only then can we get to talk directly to the producer and make sure that the products are original."

Using native materials and adding a touch of Filipino artistry

GARMENT/B9



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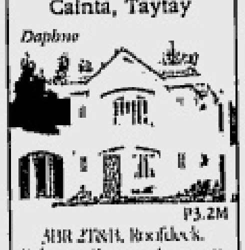

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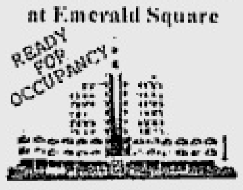

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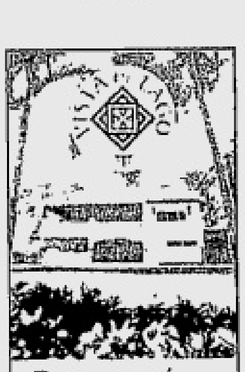

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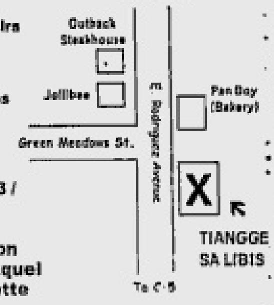

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late HONORATO C. RIZARDO was extrajudicially settled by the heirs as per Doc 471, Page 95, Book XV-15, Series of 2003 before notary public Atty. Eddie N. Fernandez of Mandaluyong City.
(PDI - October 26, November 2, & 9 2003)

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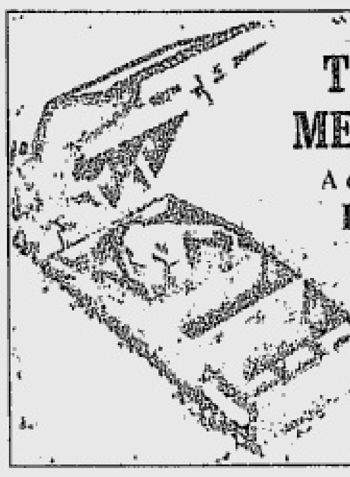

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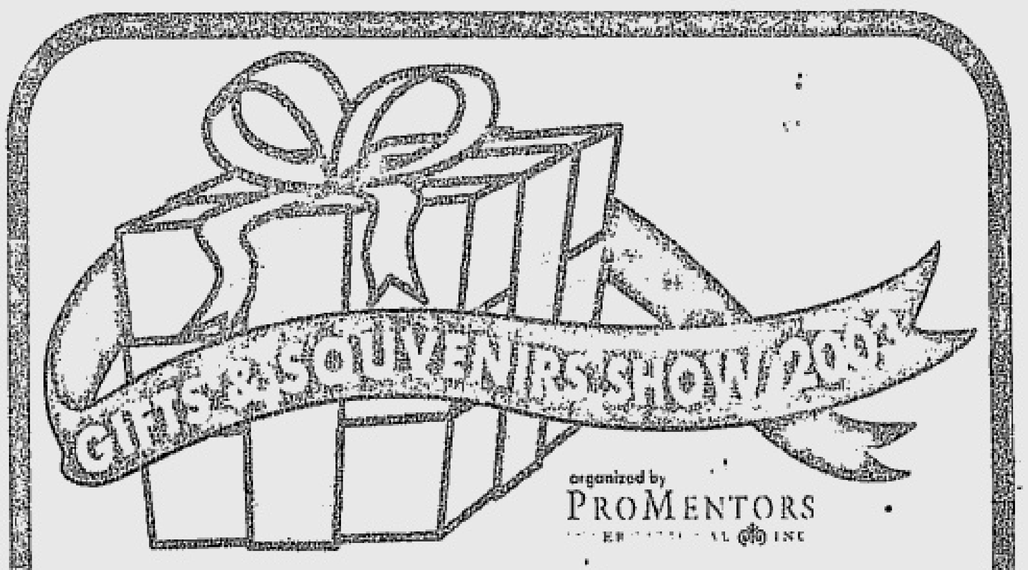

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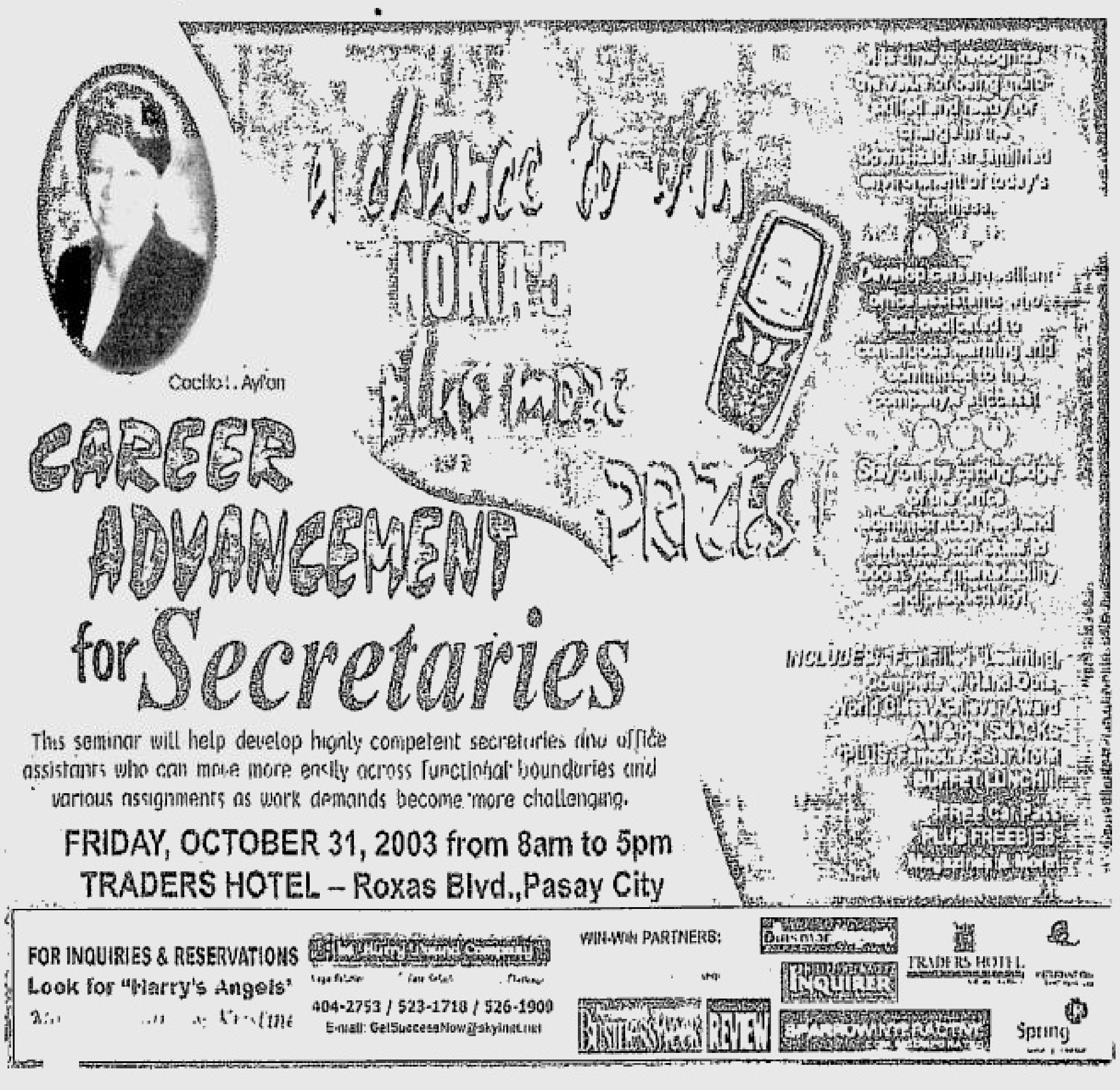

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"I am the Resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live even though he dies, and whoever believes in Me will never die." *John 11:25-26*

Corazon Cruz Santos

of Navotas and Malabon
Peacefully joined her Creator on October 24, 2003
at the age of 87.

Her loving husband **Miguel P. Santos**; daughter **Lucita & Felicisimo Coronel**; sister Leonila & brother Jaime (†); grandchildren Rey & Suzette, Eric & Fenny, Philip & Malot, Carlos & Licile and Jonathan; nine great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Mt. Carmel Parish, New Manila, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, October 28, 2003 at Eternal Gardens Memorial Park after the 8:00 A.M. Mass.

Our Dearly Beloved

SERGIO MIRAFLORES TOLENTINO, SR.

of Banga, Aklan has gone to the loving arms of our Lord
on October 21, 2003.

His wife, **Emma**; his children, **Naty & Jun Remaldora, Mameng & Hector Camposano, Sergio Jr. & Olga Mendoza, Reggie & Stephen Call, Pepotte & Cecil Bautista, Monette & Sion Samson, Dodie & Rollie Grona, Manny & Stella Valera, Caloy & Rosie Orquia, Ding & Carmen Sibucao, Butchoy & Mae Dela Torre** and **Emie**; his grandchildren, **Johan, Jeff, Jey, Andrew, Matthew, Junior, King, Cedrick, Joshua, Philip, Raymond, Jerik, Jocel, Jessa, Pamela, Nicolette, Carlo** and **CJ**; brothers and sisters, request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Banga Subdivision, Banga, Aklan.

Interment will be on Wednesday, October 29, 2003 at Banga Cemetery, Banga, Aklan.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

AMELIA ESPINOSA JIAO

who passed away on 18 October 2003

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who in various ways condoled with, contributed materially and comforted us in our time of bereavement.

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635-0219, 635-0220

Luningning Solitario Santoyo

of Cabanatuan City & Quezon City
Peacefully joined her Creator
on October 23, 2003 at the age of 67.

Her loving husband **Jose, Jr.**; children **Joey & Wilma, Johnnel & Aileene, Neth & Eddie, Pia & Randolf, Jovan & Lanie**; her grandchildren, sisters, brothers, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at her residence in Pili St., Greenfields I, Novaliches, Quezon City. Cremation schedule will be announced later or call 418-4484

In Loving Memory on
31ST DEATH ANNIVERSARY
of our dearly beloved

MARIETA JUALINO ARNAEZ

April 4, 1940-October 26, 1972

We, **Romy & Dart** and **Sandra, Day & Richard, Jumbo & Rachel**, and **Jet**, request all her relatives, friends and pious readers to join us in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-26

NANITO "NONITZ" ZUÑIGA EVANGELISTA

Peacefully joined the Lord on October 23, 2003
at the age of 59.

His parents **Briccio (†) and Rufina (†)**; *Brothers & Sisters* **Teodoro and Edna, Nemencio and Trinidad, Nicolas and Lucila**; *His Family* **Leovigilda Cuasay-Evangelista, Derrick and Jennifer, Donald, Luisa, and Nanito Jr.**; *Grandchildren* **Jakob and Samuel.**

We request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie at the Sanctuario De San Antonio Capilla De La Virgen, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Interment will be at the Manila Memorial Park -- Parañaque City on October 29, 2003 after the 1 p.m. Mass.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS
FREE OBIT DESIGN

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

We, the family of the late

Purita Bati Lagarde

wish to convey our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to our relatives, friends, and all those who sent condolences, flowers, donations, offered Masses and prayers, called from abroad, attended the funeral rites and helped and comforted us in so many ways during our time of bereavement.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest."

Rosario (Nena) Siochi De Villa

Peacefully joined her Creator on
24 October 2003 at the age of 85.

Her beloved husband, **Cecilio** (†); children: **Rico** (†), **Victor, Nettie**, and **Ding**; children-in-law: **Jill** and **Grace**; grandchildren: **Brian & Rebecca**; **Vanessa**; **Larissa;** and **Roselou, Amado Jr., Roseanne, & Andrew**; and other relatives request the reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the St. Alphonsus de Liguori Chapel, Magallanes Village, Makati City.

She will be laid to rest on Tuesday at Manila Memorial Park after the 9am Mass.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
Matthew 10:39

God has called our beloved
Mommy

Evelita Cariño Lacson

(Jan. 14, 1935 – Oct. 23, 2003)

of Vigan, Ilocos Sur

After receiving the last sacrament at age 68
and Reunited her with our beloved Daddy
HERMINIO ARO LACSON, SR.

Her beloved children **LIZA & JUN PEREZ, SUSAN & FERDIE VILLENA, CHONA, JUN & CHED, DANNY & EN, NANCY & ERWIN MENDIOLA**; grandchildren **JOSHUA, JESSICA & NINA, DANIEL, ANGELICA & ANNA, CASSIE & CATHY, MACRINA**; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 30, 2003, 4:00 p.m. at the Himlayang Pilipino.

ROMEO GOMEZ ENERO SR.

of SIXTH INTERNAL Security Services, Inc.

A native of Numancia, Aklan
passed away last October 19, 2003
at Los Angeles, California

His remains will lie at the La Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City. Interment will be on the 30th of October 2003 at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

With great grieves from his loving wife **Virginia R. Enero** and children **Edwin, Jessielyn, Edgar, Edsyle, Bobby** and **Edward**, daughters-in-law and son-in-law and grandchildren.

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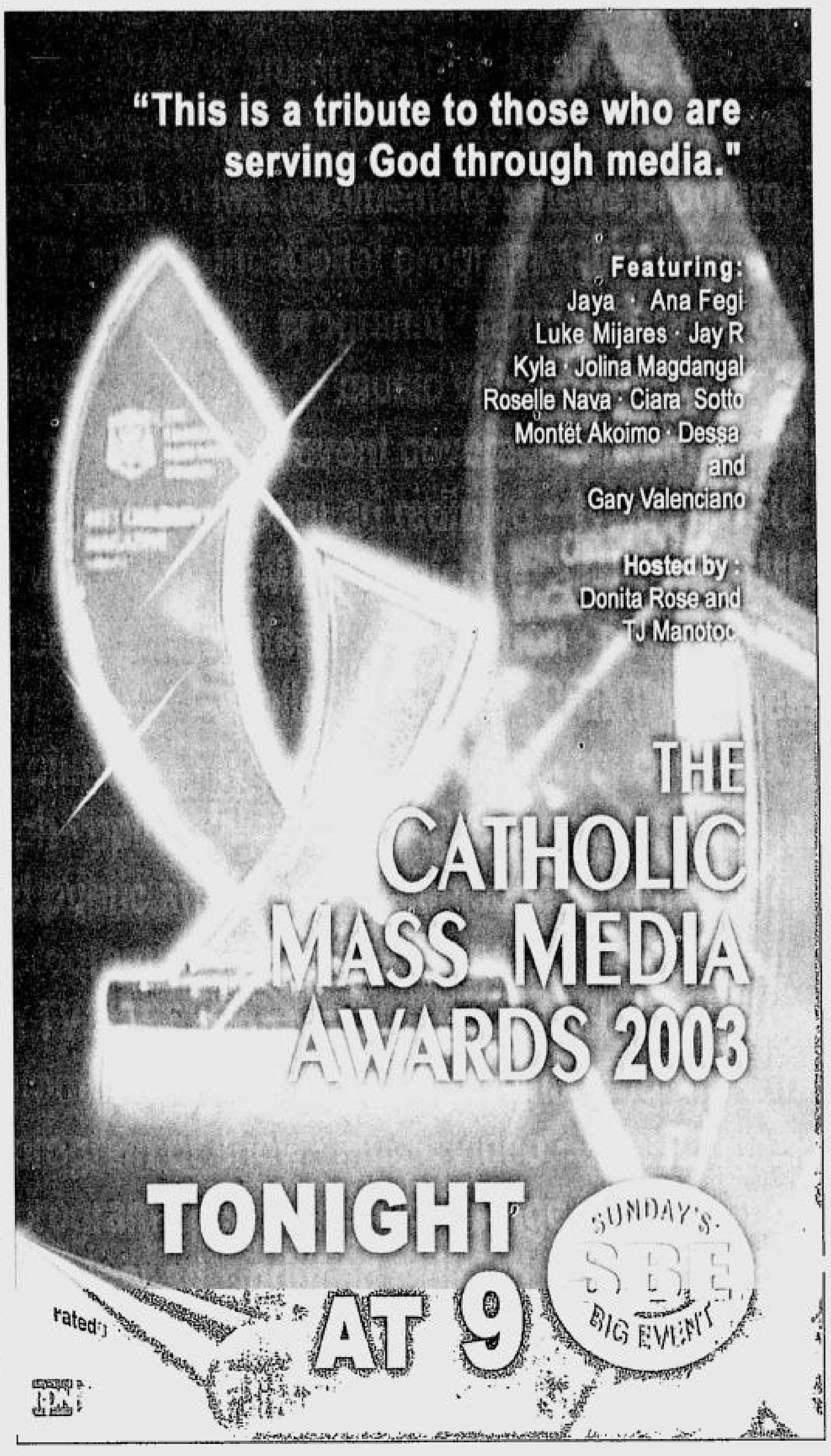

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date
Loan No. : PH-P200
IFRB No. : SEDIP-2003-FURN-IBIC

1. The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education (DepEd) has received a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation in Japanese Yen towards financing the cost of Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for Supply and Delivery of Furniture to Selected Secondary Schools in the Philippines.
2. The DepEd through the Bids and Awards Commitiee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Supply and Delivery of School Furniture for classrooms, science laboratorires, home economics, industrial arts, libraries, faculty rooms and guidance rooms of the different secondary schools in the six (6) Batch 1 Division Offices under SEDIP following the schedule below:

Division Office	Start of Issuance of Bid Documents	Time and Date of Prebid Conference	Time and Date of Bid Opening	Venue	Telephone No.
1. Benguet	November 3, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 7, 2003	10.00 AM, Nov. 17, 2003	Division Office of Benguet, La Trinidad	074-4222001
2. Ifugao	November 3, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 10, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 20, 2003	Division Office of Ifugao Lagawe	074-3822140
3. Antique	November 3, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 11, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 21, 2003	Division Office of Antique, San Jose	036-5408988
4. Guimaras	November 3, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 12, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 24, 2003	Division Office of Guimaras, Jordan	033-2371032 2371612
5. Agusan del Sur	November 3, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 13, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 25, 2003	Division Office of Agusan Del Sur, Patin-ay, Prosperidad	085-3437487
6. Surigao del Sur	November 3, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 14, 2003	10:00 AM, Nov. 26, 2003	Division Office of Surigao del Sur, Tandag	068-2113225

3. Bidders are required to submit bid for the complete quantity of all the furniture items intended for the schools in each Division per Schedule of Requirements of the bidding documents.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information on the bid form and inspect the bidding documents from the respective Division BAC Offices and telephone numbers listed in paragraph 2 or visit the DepEd Website at http://www.deped.gov.ph or the Procurement Service at http://www.procurementservice.org.
5. Bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting on the date stated in paragraph 2 upon payment to the respective DepEd Division Office cashier of a non-refundable fee of Three Hundred Pesos only (P300.00)
6. Sealed bids, together with the bid security of not less than two percent (2%) of the total bid amount must be delivered to the respective Offices of the Bids and Awards Commitiee at the time and date indicated in paragraph 2 at which time, date and place, said bids will be opened for reading in public in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
7. The DepEd Division Offices concerned reserve the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality therein and award the furniture packages to one or more bidders.

(Sgd.) JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ
Undersecretary and Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Oct. 26 & Nov. 2, 2003)

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PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED TG BANK (RURAL BANK OF SAN PABLO CITY, INC.)

1. Starting October 24, 2003, the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) thru its duly authorized representatives shall receive claims for insured deposits maintained with the closed TG Bank (Rural Bank of San Pablo City, Inc.).

2. Depositors are requested to proceed directly to the premises of the said closed bank from October 24 to November 18, 2003, to file claims for insured deposits.

   PDIC representatives are stationed at the premises of the closed bank on the above cited dates to accept claims and entertain queries of depositors during office hours, Monday to Friday.

   After the said dates, all depositors can file their claims personally at the PDIC Office from Monday to Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., or by mail addressed to-

   The Manager
   Claims Processing Department
   Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
   2228 Chino Roces Avenue
   1231 Makati City

3. Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to the PDIC representatives when filing their claims:

   a. Original evidence of deposit such as Savings Passbook and/or Bank Statement and/or Certificate of Time Deposits.
   b. Latest identification documents (ID) bearing the depositor's signature.

   Other documents maybe required by the PDIC representatives in the course of their processing of claims filed.

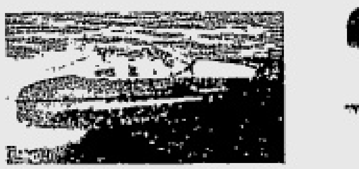
4. Pursuant to the provision of R.A. 3591, as amended, the prescriptive date (last day) for filing of claims for insured deposits in the closed TG Bank (Rural Bank of San Pablo City, Inc.) is on March 26, 2005. After March 26, 2005, PDIC as insurer, shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the said closed bank.

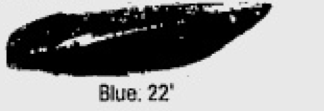
PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

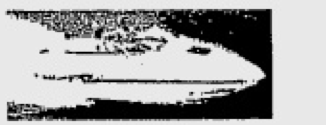
(PDI–Oct. 23 & 26, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is served to the general public that the three MARIAH SPEEDBOATS, as seen in the pictures below are MISSING.


Red: 21'


Blue: 22'


White: 17'

Rewards will be given to whoever can furnish us informations leading to the whereabouts of the above MARIAH SPEEDBOATS.

FROM: PL MARINECRAFTS, INC.
c/o ATTY. JAIME SANTIAGO
TELEPHONE NUMBERS: 632-7570 / 0917-8916112

Department of Health
Bureau of International Health Cooperation
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila

October 22, 2003

NOTICE

The Department of Health under the Early Childhood Development Project-Department of Health (ECDP-DOH) Component is in need of consultant (individual) to provide technical assistance in the Implementation of the Project's Food Fortification sub-component:

1. Legislation and Law Enforcement Advisor (1)

Interested individuals may get a copy of the Terms of Reference from the Department of Health-Early Childhood Development Project, Ground Floor, Bldg. 3, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila. Letters of interest with curriculum vitae and salary history must be submitted on or before **November 7, 2003** to the undersigned at the address below:

Bureau of International Health Cooperation
Department of Health
G/F Building 3, San Lazaro Compound
Rizal Ave., Sta Cruz, Manila

Should there be further inquiries, you may contact Ms. Cecilia C. Hernandez, Executive Assistant, Early Childhood Development Project at (02) 338-6516 and 743-8301 loc. 1343.

(Sgd.) **MA. VIRGINIA GUZMAN-ALA, MD, MPH**
Officer-In-Charge

(PDI – Oct.25 & 26, 2003)

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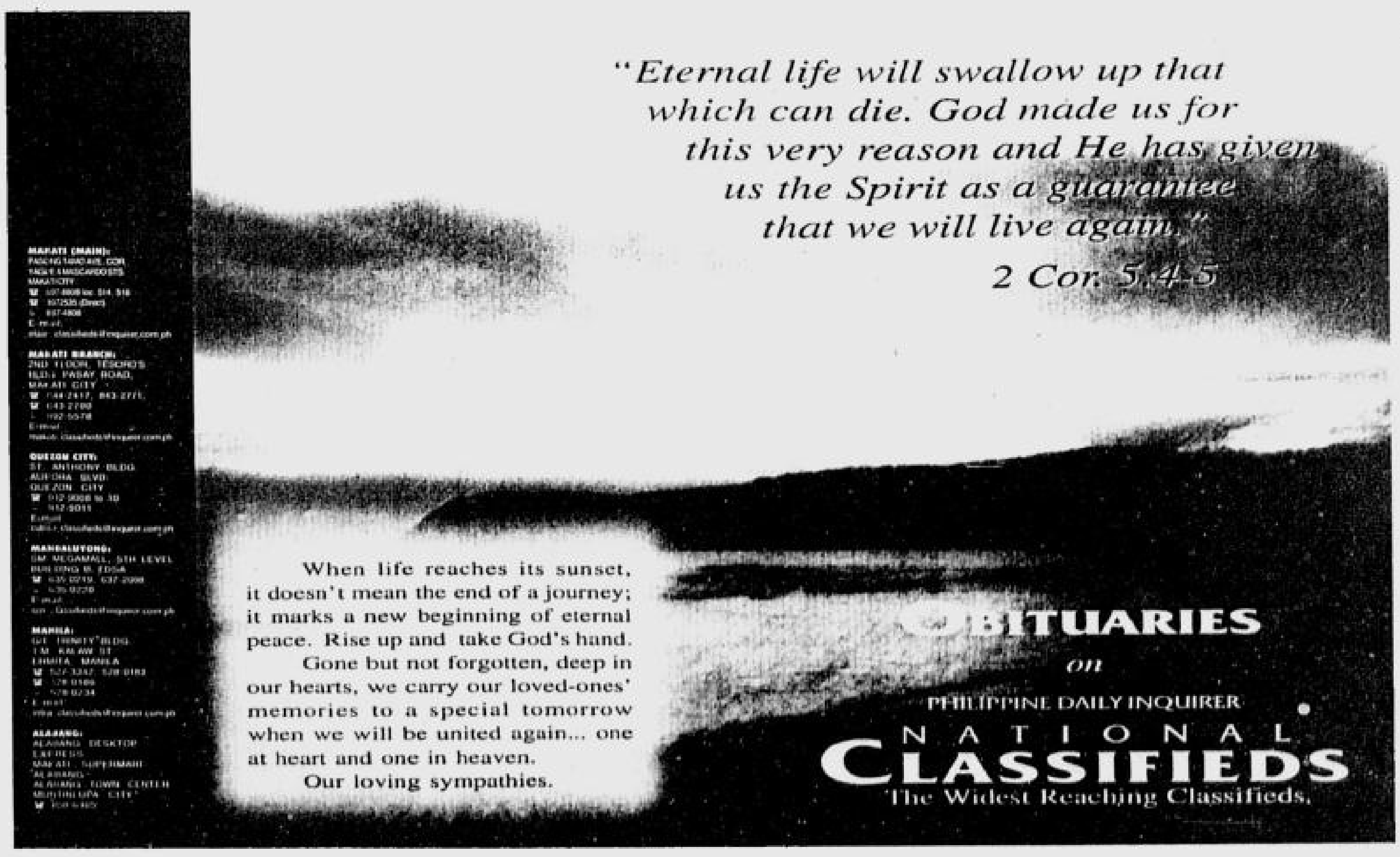
OBITUARIES


"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."
2 Cor. 5:4-5
OBITUARIES
on
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
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MANILA:
ALABANG:

When life reaches its sunset, it doesn't mean the end of a journey; it marks a new beginning of eternal peace. Rise up and take God's hand.

Gone but not forgotten, deep in our hearts, we carry our loved-ones' memories to a special tomorrow when we will be united again... one at heart and one in heaven.

Our loving sympathies.

DR. VIRGINIA REYES PEÑALOZA

FORMER CHAIRPERSON OF UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY ORTHODONTICS DEPARTMENT

Died in the Grace of the Lord on October 24, 2003.

Her bereaved siblings **Gregorio** (†), **Eduardo**, **Osias** (†), **Rhoda** (†), **Alfonso** (†), and **Antonio**; in-laws; nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains were cremated at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Inc. Crematorium on October 26, 2003 and her ashes to be viewed at Loyola Memorial Chapels Inc.

Holy Mass will be offered at 7:30 p.m. daily and the Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, October 28, 2003.

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BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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GRAPHIC DESIGNER

QUALIFICATIONS:
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- 1-year experience as Graphic Designer

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- Executes layout and design of marketing materials
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*** **SECRETARY / BOOKKEEPER**

SEND Picture, Bio-Data, NBI Clearance, Transcript, & Sample Works to P.O. Box 17534, Pinaglabanan St., San Juan, M.M.

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- Salary and Benefits negotiable

Contact: Ms. Abbie Lee 8292883
Email: metroindexrealty@uplink.com.ph
Requirements: Curriculum Vitaé, 2x2 colored picture, Transcript of Records

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INVITATION TO BID
"AS IS WHERE IS"

Damaged Motor Vehicles
1997 Honda Civic 1.6/WBD-238
1998 Honda CRV/WDS-985
For particulars, call Philam Ins. Co., Inc.
Dick Cariño, Tel. # 878-54-57

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
BIR Road, East Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC)** is inviting interested and legitimate suppliers to apply for eligibility and to submit bid proposals for the **Radio Frequency Management Information System (Phase I)** for the Commission.

Registration requirements could be secured from **Ms. Sophia Lynn B. Lumantod**, Head, NTC BAC Secretariat, NTC Bldg., BIR Road, East Avenue, Quezon City, beginning **28 October 2003** to be submitted not later than **11 November 2003, 5:00 P.M.**, through the BAC Secretariat.

Notification of registered suppliers and issuance of bid documents to registered suppliers shall be from **November 17 to 18, 2003** upon payment of non-refundable fee of One (1) Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00).

Pre-bid Conference will be on **December 9, 2003 at 2:00 P.M.** at NTC Office, NTC Bldg., BIR Rd., East Avenue, Quezon City.

Deadline for submission and opening of the bids will be on **January 20, 2004 at 2:00 P.M. and 20 January 2004 at 2:15 P.M.**, respectively. Bidders shall submit **five (5) separate sealed envelopes**; one (1) envelope containing the **eligibility requirements, two (2)** envelopes containing **the technical component** of the bid, one (1) envelope duly marked as Original and the other as a Copy, and **two (2)** envelopes containing the **financial component** of the bid, one (1) envelope duly marked as Original and the other as a Copy. All communications must be addressed to the undersigned in the above-specified address.

Prospective bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution in accordance with **"Executive Order 40"**.

The NTC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect or informality of the bid proposals received and to accept and award the bid to the bidder whose proposal is considered most advantageous to the Government. The NTC assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify any bidder for expenses or loss that it may incur in the preparation/process of the bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **EDGARDO V. CABARIOS**
Chairman, BAC

(PDI – Oct. 26 & Nov. 2, 2003)

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- With above average English language skills

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SECRETARY

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GRADUATE

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66 Imperial St., Cubao,
Q.C. near Isetann
Tel. 912-2777

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Graduate of any Business Courses. Background in accounting. Work experience not required. Female, 21-28 years old. Proficient in English. Computer Literate. Good in Oral and Written Communication. Hard Working. Can Work Extended Hours. Self motivated and able to work with minimum supervision.

PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ TO:
1788 E. Rodriguez Sr. corner New York St., Cubao, Quezon City
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November 06, 2003, 9:30am - 5:00pm
- Fundamentals of Effective Design Layout in Publishing
- Optimizing Photoshop and Illustrator as Imaging Tools

November 07, 2003, 9:30am - 5:00pm
- How To Make Interactive Websites Using Multimedia Tools

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

16 October 2003

INVITATION TO BID

The Trustee Committee for the Welfareville Property, through the Welfareville Development Project Bids and Awards Committee (WDP-BAC), is inviting interested parties to participate in the bidding for the sale of a portion of the Welfareville Property located in Mandaluyong City known as Parcel 1 with an approximate land area of 718,313 square meters.

Interested parties may submit their Letters of Intent not later than 10:00 a.m. of 14 November 2003 and address the same for the attention of:

The Chairperson
Welfareville Development Project
Bids and Awards Committee (WDP-BAC)
c/o DSWD, Asset Management Group
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the sale of said Parcel 1 shall be ready for distribution on 24 October 2003 at a non-refundable cost of PhP5,000.00 for each TOR payable to DSWD in cash or manager's check. The TOR shall be obtained from Dir. Suzette Agcaoili, CESO III, Director IV, Asset Management Group, Ground Floor, DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City, telefax no. 931-19-45 or 931-81-01 loc. 142.

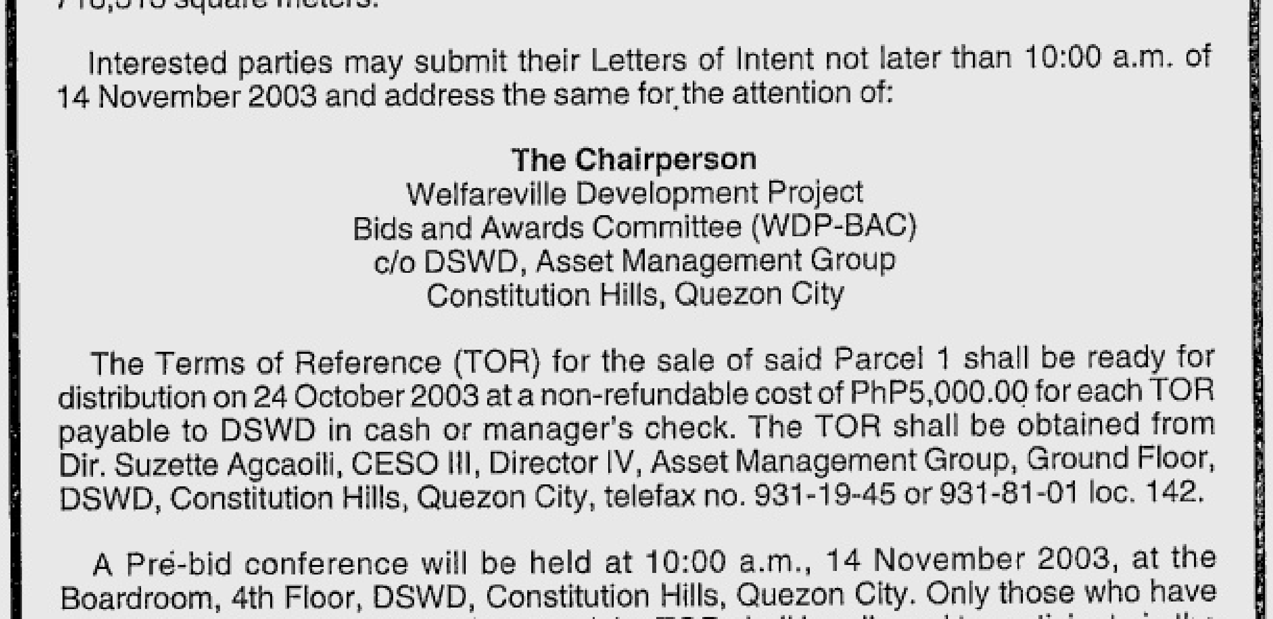
A Pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m., 14 November 2003, at the Boardroom, 4th Floor, DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City. Only those who have submitted Letters of Intent and secured the TOR shall be allowed to participate in the Pre-bid conference.

Deadline for submission of bids is 10:00 a.m., 15 December 2003. Immediately thereafter, or at 10:01 a.m., the bids shall be opened. Submission of bids and opening thereof shall be at the Boardroom, 4th Floor, DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City.

The Trustee Committee, through the WDP-BAC, reserves the right to reject any or all Letters of Intent or bids without offering any reason; waive any defect or required formality therein; assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify a bidder for any expenses or losses that he/she/they may have incurred in the preparation of the Letter of Intent or bid or resulting from such preparation; and accept the bid which is deemed most responsive and advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **MYLENE G. ALBANO**
Assistant Secretary, DENR
Chairperson, WDP-BAC

(PDI-Oct. 19, 26 & Nov. 2, 2003)



MABUHAY AWARDS 2003 – RANK & FILE NOMINEES
1st row from left to right – Mr. Donald Patrick Lim (Asst VP Marketing & Classified Ads/Inquirer-JUDGE), Fr. Jose Martin Sibug (Dean of Prior Order/Letran-JUDGE), Ms. Evelyn Pantig (Usec. of Dept. of Tourism-JUDGE), Atty. Rico De Guzman (Partner/ACCRA Law Office-JUDGE); 2nd row from left to right – Ma. Emily Balasote (Manila Peninsula), Maricris Medalla (Microtel Inn & Suites), Chona Abogado Correa (Intercontinental Hotel), Teresita Manahan (Hyatt Regency Manila), Maria Christina Salazar (Manila Diamond), Mary Rose Atilares (Mandarin Oriental), Cristina Gotoc (Cravings Restaurant-Festival Mall), Angelica Davila (Westin Philippine Plaza), Marry Lorie Lynn Herrera (Viverre Suites), Rowena Tanes (Tagaytay Highlands); 3rd row from left to right – Isabelo Dela Cruz (Max's Restaurant), Wilfredo Avellano (Shangri-La Manila), Erico Sandiongco (Discovery Suites), Roel Antiquera (Edsa Shangri-La), Roy Van Morales (Pan Pacific Manila), Domingo Recaña (Century Park), Reynaldo Lacerna (Oakwood Premier), Manuel Ornedo (Aristocract Restaurant)

Oil firm boasts of producing cleanest diesel

GREATER Manila can now breathe easier, thanks to the introduction of Shell Diesoline Ultra (SDU)—a low-sulfur diesel formulated for clean power and pure performance with reduced exhaust emissions in diesel-fueled vehicles.

SDU boasts of being the cleanest and purest diesel fuel available in the market today with its reduced sulfur content of 0.05 percent, in strict compliance with the 2004 Clean Air Act. With 75 percent reduced sulfur dioxide exhaust, SDU significantly lessens pollutants that pose great health risks to Filipinos.

According to Randolph Del Valle, Shell's Fuels Brand Manager, the launching of SDU is part of the company's commitment to improve the quality of air in the country, "Because of the low sulfur content, carbon deposits in your engine are lessened, and so your engine will have less exhaust emissions. This means cleaner air for everyone."

Aside from reduced sulfur, SDU is the only diesel fuel that has special cleaning properties that eliminate carbon deposits commonly produced by other diesel fuels. It is also the only diesel that is super refined to be clean and pure, with no impurities nor contaminants. This breakthrough means that not only will your diesel engine emit less smoke, it will also run better and smoother, with greater fuel efficiency.

Del Valle reveals SDU is embarking on a transport group-based promotional campaign, "We will be holding Caravan tours in main jeepney and Megataxi terminals as well as truck stops throughout the Greater Manila Area. We want them to know about the benefits of the product as well as its positive effects on the environment."

The growing concerns on the long-term effects of pollution due to vehicular emissions prompted Shell to become more vigilant in developing, producing and promoting acceptable fuel products. As a caring innovator, it recently forged a partnership with the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CIA-Asia), a regional multi-sectoral movement on air quality management launched by Asian Development Bank and the World Bank, to make true its promise of earth-friendly fuel such as Shell Diesoline Ultra.

Del Valle further stresses Shell's commitment is to serve the environment, "We are hoping the launch of SDU will mean lesser smoke emissions for cleaner air yet delivers the true power of diesel."

PILIPINAS Shell Petroleum Corp.VP for Retail Cesar Romero, Asst. Director -Environmental Management Bureau Fernandino Concepcion and Shell VP for Commercial Romy de Guzman.

SHELL companies in the Philippines country chair Edgar Chua and Energy Secretary Vincent Perez

Garment ...

From page B3

in their products, Paper and Arts has come a long way, and has provided employment to the people of Tuy.

Filipino artistry

"We know that life is getting harder everyday. But it doesn't have to stay that way forever. We have to move on and make life better," Ana Marie says.

"What we're really proud of is that our hand-made paper products are real, authentic creations, really made by hands of Filipinos and worth the attention of the world. It's only here in Tuy where you can find this kind of paper art," Ana Marie says.

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Balintawak, Quezon City
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924-2624

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Quezon City
Tel No.: 742-3435 to 36
731-2615 to 17

COMMONWEALTH
Blk. 17 Commonwealth Ave.
Diliman Quezon City
Tel No.: 952-9118
Fax: 952-9440

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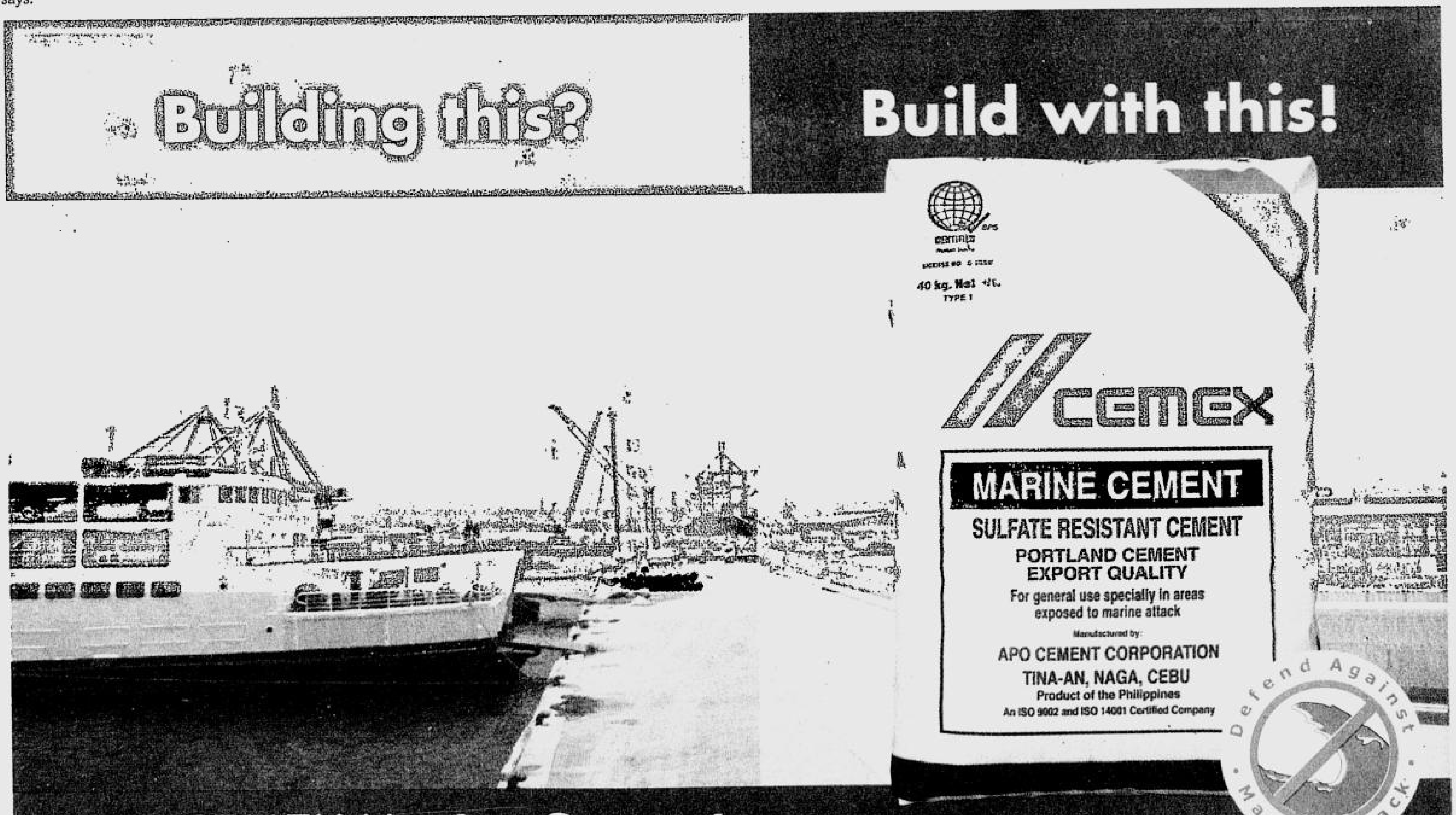

New! CEMEX Marine Cement

Our ports are cornerstones of our industry. What many of us don't realize is that our ports and seaside developments are constantly exposed to the sulfates found in marine air and water. These sulfates corrode concrete, making it deteriorate. This is what is known as Marine Attack™ — the deterioration of concrete when sulfates in the environment come into contact and react with cement.

Marine Attack™ has been a silent destroyer to structures large and small, eating away at investments, endangering projects and causing exorbitant costs in repairs and rebuilding.

If you are building in an area exposed to marine atmosphere, seawater, or acid rain, you need a cement with Marine Attack™ resistance to protect your concrete structure.

CEMEX Marine Cement will defend against Marine Attack! With high ultimate strength and specially formulated to reduce damage to concrete, mortar and grout exposed to Marine Attack™, CEMEX Marine is manufactured to meet the strictest standards and expectations of architects, contractors and builders, making it the most ideal building material in high sulfate environments and for structures where strength and durability are of paramount importance.

Defend against Marine Attack™! Build with new CEMEX Marine Cement!

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WEBSITE:
www.cemexphilippines.com
E-MAIL:
servicecenter@cemex.com.ph

CEMEX
MARINE

Operating hours is from 8am to 7pm Mondays to Fridays, and 8am to 5pm on Saturdays and Holidays.

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie 833-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9265452

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 UNDERWORLD
3 BUGBOG SARADO
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 FREAKY FRIDAY
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
7 BELPHEGOR
8 THE RUNDOWN

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
5 PILYA
6 UTANG NG AMA
7 FREDDY VS. JASON
8 UNDERWORLD

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 BELPHEGOR
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 UNDERWORLD
6 BUGBOG SARADO
7 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
8 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7138015

1 RUNDOWN
2 UNDERWORLD
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 BUGBOG SARADO
5 MATCHSTICKMEN
6 UTANG NG AMA

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294915

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BELPHEGOR
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

SM BICUTAN
7763055

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 BELPHEGOR

SM CITY MARILAO

OPENS Nov. 28

SM STA. MESA
7149522 • 7161416

1 AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 BUGBOG SARADO
5 UNDERWORLD
6 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
7 FREAKY FRIDAY
8 THE SUSPECT
9 UTANG NG AMA
10 BELPHEGOR

SM SOUTHMALL
5566088

1 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
2 FREAKY FRIDAY
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
5 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
6 BELPHEGOR
7 UTANG NG AMA
8 UNDERWORLD
9 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
10 BUGBOG SARADO

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9390049

1 BELPHEGOR
2 THE SUSPECT
3 FREAKY FRIDAY
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 UTANG NG AMA
7 THE RUNDOWN
8 UNDERWORLD
9 BUGBOG SARADO
10 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
11 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
12 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES

SM CITY DAVAO
2976592

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 MATCHSTICKMEN
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 THE MEDALLION

SM CITY LUCENA
(042) 7108977-80

1 FREAKY FRIDAY
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 THE MEDALLION
4 FREDDY VS. JASON

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6339401

1 THE RUNDOWN
RESERVE-A-SEAT dial 6356000
2 FREAKY FRIDAY
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
7 BELPHEGOR
8 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
9 UTANG NG AMA
10 UNDERWORLD
11 BUGBOG SARADO
12 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 BELPHEGOR
3 BUGBOG SARADO
4 UTANG NG AMA

SM CITY ILOILO
3203922

1 KISKISAN
2 RESERVED
3 FREDDY VS. JASON
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
6 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
7 RESERVED
8 UTANG NG AMA

SM CITY MANILA
5239340

1 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 FREAKY FRIDAY
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 THE SUSPECT
6 UNDERWORLD
7 UTANG NG AMA
8 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
9 BELPHEGOR
10 VISIBLE SECRET 2
11 KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
12 BUGBOG SARADO

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
(088) 5592084

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING
3 UTANG NG AMA
4 THE MEDALLION

SM CITY BAGUIO
(074) 4464885

OPENS Nov. 21

THE PODIUM CINEMA

18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City • 638 9781 - 85

1 **MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER**
10:40 FS/11:10 MF/1:00/3:00/5:05/7:00/9:00/10:25 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:25 END

2 **THE RUNDOWN**
11:40 FS/12:10 FS/2:20/4:30/6:40/8:50/10:35 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:45 END

For Seat Reservation, call 632 8975 • LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday • Regular P120.00 - After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

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Galleria
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687-0593

THX /All Digital

1 THE RUNDOWN 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30 THX
2 THE RUNDOWN 11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 10:00
3 MATCHSTICK MEN 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
4 UNDERWORLD 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
5 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER 11:25, 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50
6 FREAKY FRIDAY 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
7 BELPHEGOR 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
8 THE SUSPECT 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
9 AMERICAN PIE: THE WEDDING 12:05, 2:15, 4:30 6:40, 9:00
10 UTANG NG AMA 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

MATINEE PRICE: P100 THX cinema / P75 1level cinemas Mon.- Fri. / 10am- 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita
526-7185
536-7809 to 12

1 THE RUNDOWN - 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
2 UNDERWORLD - 11:15, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 7:55, 10:00
3 BELPHEGOR - 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40
4 UTANG NG AMA - 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
5 FREAKY FRIDAY - 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER - 10:55, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45
7 AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING 11:05, 12:55, 2:45, 4:35, 6:25, 8:15, 10:00

Metro East
Marcos hway
682-8193/99
682-8280

1 UNDERWORLD
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING
4 FREAKY FRIDAY
5 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
6 BELPHEGOR:CURSE OF THE MUMMY
7 UTANG NG AMA
8 BUGBOG SARADO

Novaliches
935-3229 / 31

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 FREAKY FRIDAY
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 UNDERWORLD
6 AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING
7 BELPHEGOR:CURSE OF THE MUMMY
8 BUGBOG SARADO

Star Mills (045)875-1027 (045)961-5270		Imus (046)471-8188 / 875-5858
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	1	THE RUNDOWN
BUGBOG SARADO	2	UNDERWORLD
MATCHSTICK MEN	3	BUGBOG SARADO
UTANG NG AMA	4	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
UNDERWORLD	5	UTANG NG AMA
THE RUNDOWN	6	BELPHEGOR

Bacolod (034)441-0458/50		Iloilo (033)336-8070 to 78
THE RUNDOWN	1	THE RUNDOWN
FREDDY VS. JASON	2	AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING
THE MEDALLION	3	HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES
FREDDY VS. JASON	4	FREDDY VS. JASON
AMERICAN PIE:THE WEDDING	5	KISKISAN
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	6	TAKE MY BODY

Sta. Rosa (049)837-0007		Lipa, Batangas
THE RUNDOWN	1	MATCHSTICK MEN
UTANG NG AMA	2	BUGBOG SARADO
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	3	UTANG NG AMA
UTANG NG AMA	4	SOON TO OPEN
BUGBOG SARADO	5	

Malabon
288-0985/2575

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BUGBOG SARADO
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 BELPHEGOR:CURSE OF THE MUMMY

SOON TO OPEN

DASMARINAS, CAVITE

CAINTA JUNCTION

THE RUNDOWN
MTRCB Rating: PG-13

NOW SHOWING at Robinsons Movieworld Cinemas

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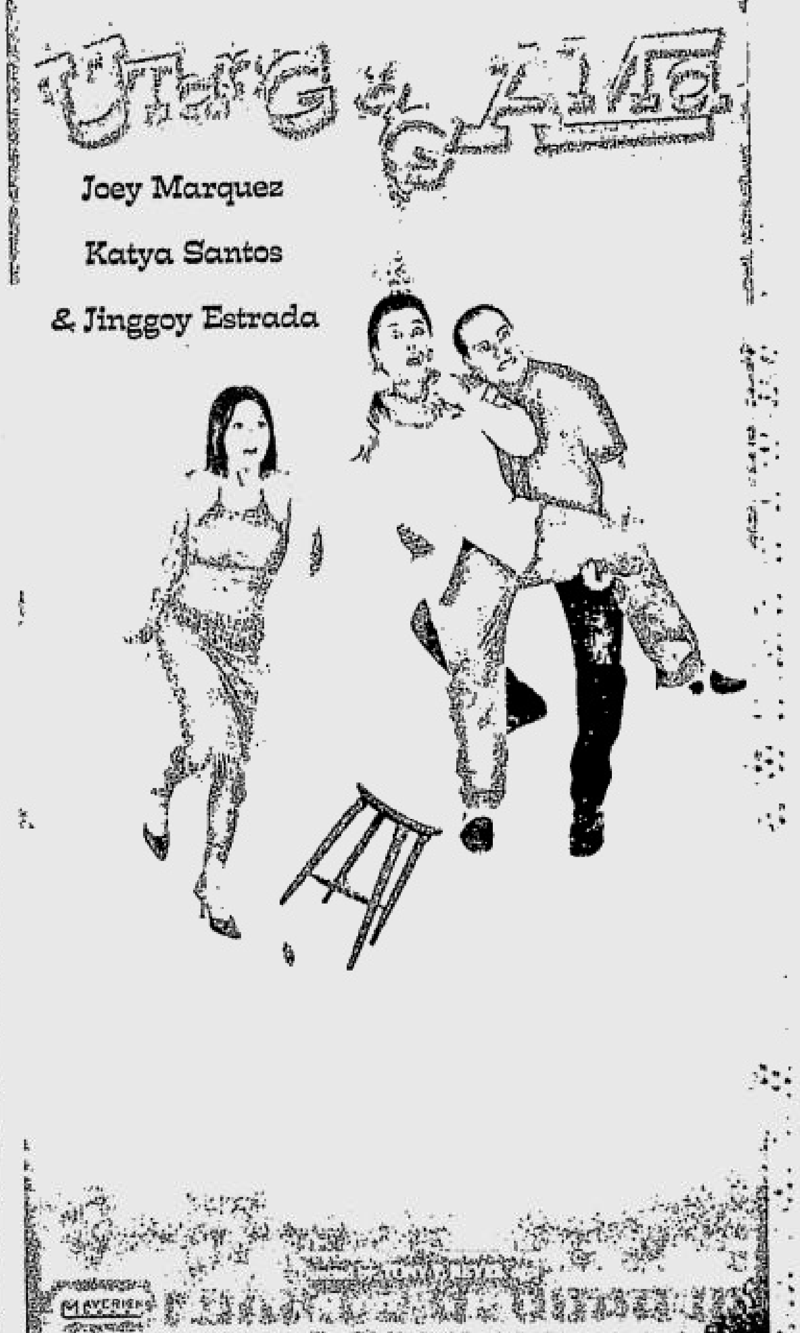
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult



NOW SHOWING

OPENS OCTOBER 29

BRENDAN FRASER MICHAEL CAINE DO THIA HAI YEN

From the director of "CLEAR and PRESENT DANGER"
BETRAYAL DECEPTION MURDER
THE SPY

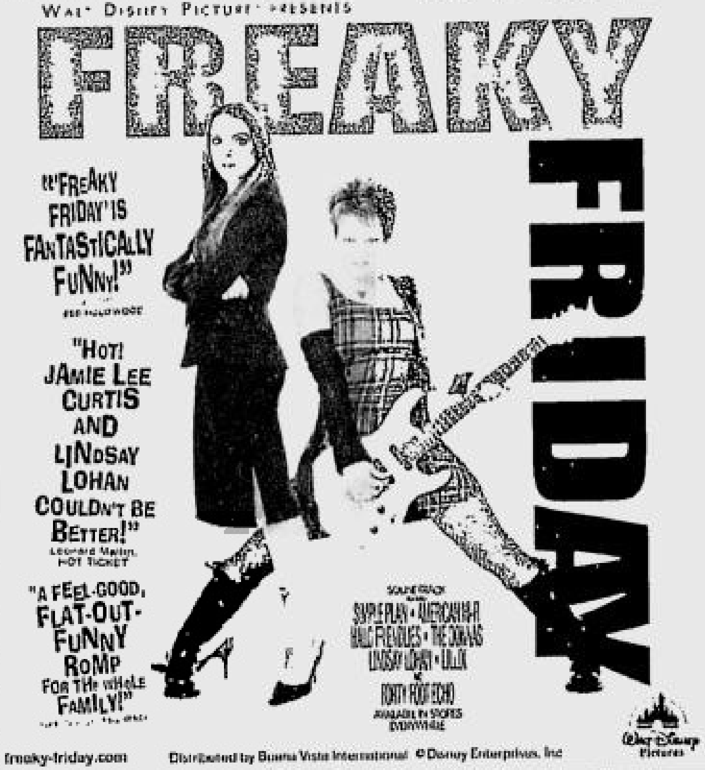
SECOND WEEK!

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

Every teenager's nightmare...turning into her mother.

JAMIE LEE CURTIS LINDSAY LOHAN

WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS


FREAKY FRIDAY
"'FREAKY FRIDAY' IS FANTASTICALLY FUNNY!"
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HALO FRIENDLIES • THE DONNAS
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THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	BUGBOG SARADO
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	UTANG NG AMA
B	RUNDOWN
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BUGBOG SARADO
CINEMA-2	FREAKY FRIDAY
CINEMA-3	MATCHSTICK MEN
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SUSPECT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES
CINEMA-6	KUNG AKO NA LANG SANA
CINEMA-7	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
CINEMA-8	KIKAY (R)
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	RUNDOWN
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUNDOWN
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	BELPHEGOR
CINEMA-12	UNDERWORLD
CINEMA-14	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
CINEMA-15	UTANG NA AMA
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PINAS)	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
CINEMA-1	UTANG NG AMA
CINEMA-2	BUGBOG SARADO
CINEMA-4	ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

MTRCB RATING PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

"TWO THUMBS WAY UP"

Ebert & Roeper

"★★★★! ONE OF THE YEAR'S VERY BEST." Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV

"A VERY VIVID COMIC THRILLER. IT'S A 21ST-CENTURY VERSION OF 'THE STING.'" Glenn Kenny, PREMIERE MAGAZINE

"DEVIOUSLY CLEVER. A CAPER WITH A HIP SENSE OF HUMOR." Jay Fielden, VOGUE MAGAZINE

"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES IN YEARS! VERY FUNNY AND RELENTLESSLY SUSPENSEFUL!" Mark S. Allen, UPN-TV

"RIDLEY SCOTT HAS A WEALTH OF TRICKS UP HIS SLEEVE IN THIS TWISTY CAPER COMEDY." Karen Durbin, ELLE MAGAZINE

NICOLAS CAGE SAM ROCKWELL ALISON LOHMAN

A RIDLEY SCOTT FILM

MATCHSTICK MEN

NOW SHOWING

THEATRE MALL

GREENHILLS

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 — **THE RUNDOWN** 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00 **PG13**

CINEMA 2 — **MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER** 11:05, 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 10:00 **R13**

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

MUSIC MUSEUM

OCT 29 & 30	"ECLECTIC" NYOY VOLANTE	8:00PM
OCT 30	NINA SOLE SIREN	9:00PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING **R18** 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50	**MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER** **R13** 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10	**FREAKY FRIDAY** **GP** 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40
MATCHSTICKMEN **PG13** 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00	**SINBAD** **GP** 11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20 **THE SUSPECT** **R13** 7:20, 9:40	**THE RUNDOWN** **PG13** 11:45, 1:50, 3:55, 6:010, 8:10, 10:20

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

TWO LOVE STORIES IN ONE MOVIE THAT WILL MAKE YOU FALL IN-LOVE LIKE IT'S THE FIRST TIME!!!

John Lloyd Cruz Bea Alonzo John Prats Heart Evangelista

MY FIRST ROMANCE

Directed by: John-D Lazatin • Don Cuaresma

STAR CINEMA PRODUCTIONS INC

Closeup · Johnson's Pure Essentials mini face powder · Kotex · URBAN · Outland

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OPENS ON OCTOBER 29, 2003

ALL DIGITAL SOUND AYALA CINEMAS PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
BELPHEGOR	HEAD OF THE STATE	ArtFilm SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL	THX GUARANTEED SEATS HEAD OF THE STATE [illegible] 4:45 6:55 9:05 11:1	THX THE RUNDOWN
THE RUNDOWN	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING	THE RUNDOWN [illegible]	THX GUARANTEED SEATS THE RUNDOWN 2:00 4:15 6:30 8:45 11:00	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER	THX GUARANTEED SEATS MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER [illegible] 8:30 10:30	REGINE VELASQUEZ NOV 14 15 21 22 28 29 9PM	GUARANTEED SEATS FREAKY FRIDAY 1:25 3:20 5:15 7:10 9:05 11:00	FREAKY FRIDAY
HEAD OF THE STATE	MATCHSTICK MEN		GUARANTEED SEATS AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING 1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30 11:30	BELPHEGOR
	UNDERWORLD		GUARANTEED SEATS MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER 1:25 3:20 5:15 7:10 9:05 11:00	AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING
	THE RUNDOWN			
	FREAKY FRIDAY			

For sreening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 and send to 2333. Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 UNDERWORLD
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 AMERICAN PIE
4 FREAKY FRIDAY
5 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
6 THE RUNDOWN
7 AMERICAN PCYCHO
8 UTANG NG AMA
9 THE SUSPECT
10 BELPHEGOR

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA 1 2 & 3
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 833.3274

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 KIKAY

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph (Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BELPHEGOR
3 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 BUGBOG SARADO

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph (Alabang) tel 850.4285

1 BUGBOG SARADO
2 KIKAY
3 UTANG NG AMA
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 BOSS'S DAUGHTER
6 BELPHEGOR

star
www.clickthecity.com.ph (Las Pinas) tel 873.5004

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 UTANG NG AMA

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 893-4225, 892-2503

CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO
2 FREDDY VS JASON

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC
tel 930.9515

1
2
3

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) TEL. 776-74-21

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5 UTANG NG AMA
6 BUGBOG SARADO
7 BELPHEGOR
8 THE RUNDOWN
9 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2 RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364-3781

1 KUNG AKO NALANG SANA
2 BUGBOG SARADO
3 UTANG NG AMA
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 BELPHEGOR
6 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
7 THE RUNDOWN
8 KIKAY
9 KISKISAN

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

1 BUGBOG SARADO
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 UTANG NG AMA
4 THE RUNDOWN
5 KIKAY

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 BELPHEGOR
4 KIKAY
5 THE RUNDOWN

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1 RESERVE

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1 RESERVE

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson BEHIND THE GREEN DOOR
Lords LALAKE
Jennet RESERVE

MARIKINA
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 , 533.3856

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 BUGBOG SARADO
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 BELPHEGOR
3 KIKAY
4 UTANG NG AMA
5 BUGBOG SARADO

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 879.2029

1 KIKAY
2 UTANG NG AMA

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta

MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BUGBOG SARADO
3 UNDERWORLD
4 RUNDOWN
5 BELPHEGOR
6 THE SUSPECT
7 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna) TEL. (049) 837-0926

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BUGBOG SARADO
3 THE RUNDOWN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 THE RUNDOWN
3 MATCHSTICK MEN
4 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 BASIC
2 MEDALLION
3 2 FAST 2 FURIOUS
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1 FREAKY FRIDAY
2 MEDALLION
3 INNERSENSES
4 AMERICAN PIE THE WEDDING

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1 MEDALLION
2 AMERICAN PIE THE WDDING
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 BUGBOG SARADO
2 KIKAY
3 UTANG NG AMA
4 THE RUNDOWN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES
4 BUGBOG SARADO
5 TREK

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1 UTANG NG AMA
2 BUGBOG SARADO
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER
3 UTANG NG AMA

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1 AMERICAN PIE THE WDDING
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 BUGBOG SARADO
4 THE SUSPECT

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1 LIGAYA KATUMBAS AY BUHAY
2 UTANG NG AMA
3 RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 BUGBOG SARADO
2 MATCHSTICK MEN
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 UTANG NG AMA

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 TO 03

1 THE RUNDOWN
2 THE SUSPECT
3 MATCHSTICK MEN
4 HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES

Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887-0121

1 HOUSE OF 1,000 CORPSES
2 THE SUSPECT
3 THE RUNDOWN
4 MATCHSTICK MEN

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Simplicity, humor and even a little 'violence' make great ads

THE VERDICT is still out on which ads will win the Araw Awards, local advertising's Clios, and it won't be known until the finale of next month's 18th Philippine Advertising Congress in Baguio. The judging process itself took three grueling days as hundreds of entries in different mediums passed through the proverbial eye of the needle. Among the judges were five foreign guests, award winners in their own right and seasoned figures in the international competition circuit. At the end of the second day of judging, they took time out from jury duty to share their thoughts on creativity in a forum held on Oct. 7 at the Powerplant Cinema in Rockwell.

The five were Jureeporn Thaidumrong, executive creative director of Saatchi & Saatchi Thailand; David Blackley, national creative director and deputy chairman, Clemenger BBDO Australia and New Zealand; Sonal Dabral, executive creative director and managing director, Ogily & Mather Malaysia; Norman Tan, executive creative director, J. Walter Thompson Southeast Asia; Steve Elrick, executive creative director, BBH Asia Pacific.

Each of the five was given eight minutes to make their presentations. In consonance with the theme of the congress, which is "What's the Big Idea?", the speakers tackled the potent subject with divergent viewpoints but similar underpinnings. In their hands, the topic was like a multifaceted gem that glistened.

Judy, Jureeporn 's nickname, has been dubbed the Power Puff Girl of Thailand by CampaignBrief Asia and not just because of her looks and leggy lissomeness. She prefaced her agency's show reel with a spoofy "travelogue" on Thailand. The funniest bit was how Thais come to a literal standstill when their national anthem is played, even if it means for people going down the escalator to pile up at the landing.

"Thai advertising, which consistently·ranks among the top 10 in international competitions, has advanced in the last 10 to 15 years, " Judy said in a reassuring tone, implicitly telling the audience that Philippine advertising can be just as world-class. Influenced by the gentleness and openness of Buddhism, her culture is less constricted as ours. Thais can laugh at themselves, without feeling guilty.

Judy said that key to her creative process is to think without rules. Her ideas come from the heart and her ads talk to Thai consumers in the Thai way, often with humor, an important quality, which recurred in the majority of the award-winning ads of the four other creative directors.

David Blackley, an Aussie with a self-deprecating humor ("The only culture in Australia is agriculture") and a virtual living legend in his homeland for having led his agency to nine Agency of the Year wins, underscored his belief that when it comes to the Big Idea, there should be no limits to the imagination. And if the Big Idea calls for a big budget and the client can afford it, then by all mea s, ¿o for the works-the location, the name director, the special effects.

"But a great commercial can be also achieved on a shoestring budget," David stressed.

"Keep the Big Idea strong and simple, as to make it director-proof. Underwrite the copy. And with the ready availability of inexpensive equipment like the digital camera, you can even direct the commercial yourself." He added, with tongue in cheek, that besides humor, you can put in a little "violence".

Sonal Dabral cut a neo-Byronic figure with his golden-tinted raven curls and kohl- dark eyes . A native of India, he was once a VJ and a Bollywood scriptwriter. The Times of India heralded him one of the young leaders who will take India into the 21st century. It's this youthful dynamism he has brought with him to Malaysia.

Sonal said that hundreds of things go through our heads every day. "To discover the Big Idea, we should let our minds wander and explore. We should go beyond the data and the strategies and the research and touch base with our own experiences and memories.

It could be looking back at our childhood or reminiscing about a recent vacation or even just observing a butterfly," he said. Accompanied by simple, striking graphic images and words that flashed on the screen, he asked the audience to love, laugh, cry and share.

One valuable tip Sonal gave the audience that night was for ad people to become friends with clients. This way, he opined, the approval of the ads that the agency is championing would be facilitated.

Norman Tan, who used to be based in Taipei but now oversees JWT's regional creative output from Singapore, presented a suite of lovely postcards which he had written and sent to friends and associates. He does this on a regular basis and his postcards are published in an ad industry rag.

His postcards are reflective and filled with observations about places, people, food, and human behavior. This is how he unspools and let his creative juices flow, the fount from which he culls the Big Idea.

Rather poignantly, in calm tones, Norman imparted a piece of excellent advice to the audience: He enjoined each copywriter and art director to do one good ad a year.

The last man standing was Steve Elrick with his Daddy Warbucks dome and incessant barrage of witticisms. The most familiar of his work were his TV commercials for Lynx, which is marketed in this country as Axe. The Big Idea of Lynx is the old art of seduction but the twist is that the women are the aggressors.

"You know you've stumbled on a Big Idea if it can generate a lot of executions,' he said.

If anything, simplicity was the common thread that ran through the ads of the guest judges. It was the livewire that electrified their Big Ideas and communicated to and connected with the audience.

In the open forum that followed the talk, the panel was asked what they thought of Philippine advertising. The guest judges were unanimous in decreeing that our ads, especially the TV commercials, are saddled with too much information and copy. Our ads also tend to be formulaic - problem, solution, happy ending, or 1 + 1 = 2.

They suggested that once creative teams grasp the givens (brand values, consumer insights, strategies), the teams should refine their concepts, jettisoning extraneous details and focusing on essentials.

When pressed about their opinions of the entries to the Araw Awards competition, the judges felt that the best work in print was superior to the TV ads. One judge described the outstanding print ads as "world-class".

They said that some of the TV commercials could have been better crafted. The acting in the commercials they saw was generally over the top, the direction a bit too fussy and frenetic. Once again, clichés abounded in the way families were portrayed-smiling, laughing and hugging one another in cookie-cutter uniformity.

While none of the foreign judges would ever claim to have the monopoly on creativity or the last word on the Big Idea, they were generous enough to share their insights with a receptive audience. Hopefully, their one-night stand was an eye opener and a mind expander, making a positive impact on the quality of our advertising.

THE audience roars in laughter at the TV commercials.

SONAL Dabral (second from left) makes a point while (from left) David Blackley, Norman Tan, Judee Thaidumrong and Steve Elrick listen.

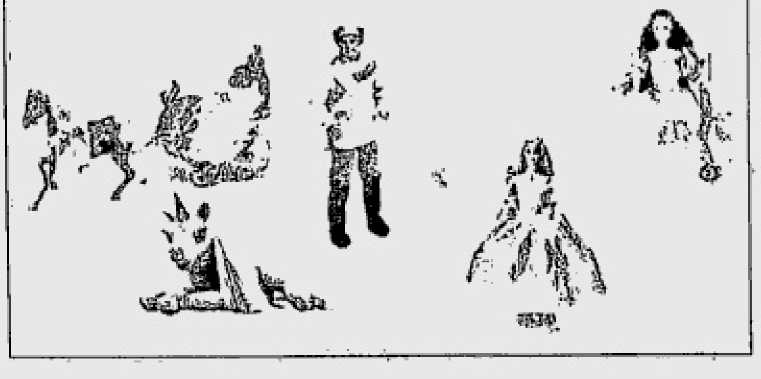
ALL THE WAY FOR GIRL POWER

Mainstay star of Master Showman, Justin Rosana recently signed for Richmarsh Industrial Trade Corp, sole distributor of Fuze Comfort Feminine Napkins as its endorser and image model. Present in the contract signing (seated from left): Johnny Flores - talent manager, teenage sensation Justin Rosana and Rose Marasigan - executive creative director, Ad Option; (standing from left): Annie Aquino - account executive, Ad Options and Justin's mother, Juliet Rosana. Richmarsh's Fuze Comfort Feminine Napkins are available at all leading department stores, supermarkets and drugstores nationwide.

Product Files

Barbie of Swan Lake

BARBIE doll will enchant and delight audiences everywhere as she steps into the limelight with Barbie of Swan Lake, a stunning computer-animated movie that combines storytelling with exceptionally beautiful ballet choreography performed by dancers from the world renowned New York City Ballet to Tchaikovsky's unforgettable music. The story of Barbie of Swan Lake will be brought to life with an array of beautiful merchandise. With more products and expanded categories than Barbie doll's first two movies, the World of Barbie of Swan Lake will boast an array of fashion dolls, a plush line, accessories, software, and licensed products. For more information call Richwell at 732-5141 to 47 local 205.



Bits Clips

7th OFR Awards Night

CONTINUING the tradition of honoring world-class Filipino retailers, the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA), in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is set to award the 2003 Outstanding Filipino Retailers (OFR) on Oct. 28 at the Isla Ballroom, Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City. Now on its 7th year, the annual award seeks to recognize outstanding retailers who "epitomize the model of a successful retailer in terms of growth and good ethical practices." The OFR award is divided into six categories namely full-line department store, category specialist, small-scale store, medium scale store, most promising retailer, and mall of the year. Sponsors are the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Ayala Land Inc, SM Shoemart Inc and Shangri-La Plaza Corp.

BPI Installment Madness

ONGOING until today, the 31st BPI Installment Madness at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City, lets BPI cardholders take advantage of zero percent interest rates when they use their BPI card's Special Installment Plan (SIP) on 6 and 12 monthly payment terms when purchasing Philips products. Philips will also give away amazing freebies and discounts upon purchase of select items. Visit the Philips booth at the 31st BPI Installment Madness and treat yourself to quality viewing and listening experience that can only be from Philips.

Maybank promo ongoing

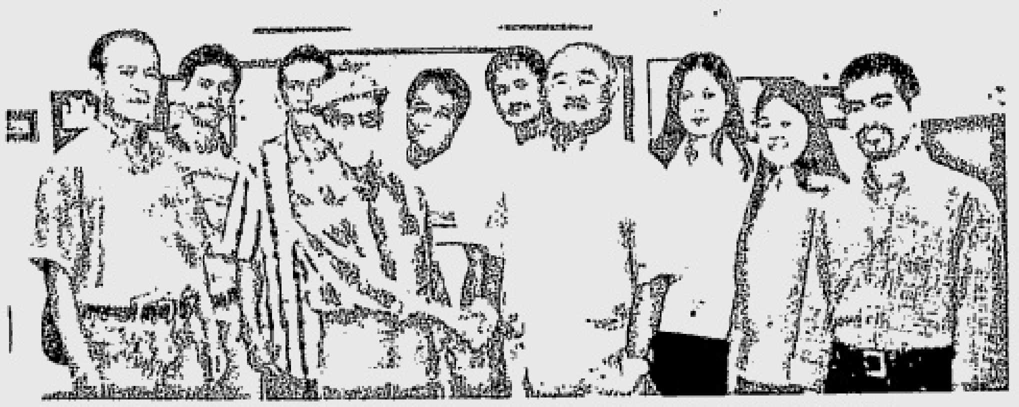
FOR A limited run only, Maybank Philippines has revived the successful Lifestyle 3 Wishes Promo for its Maybank Advantage Plus 5-year time deposit account with monthly interest pay-out. Depending on the amount of investment, new Advantage Plus depositors are entitled to any one of among 3 wish packages - and is instantly granted either a cellphone kit, or Nokia handsfree set, a kitchen appliance of choice from Abenson, movie tickets at Rockwell Powerplant Mall, or an overnight accomodation for 2 or buffet breakfast for 4 in a hotel of choice in destinations nationwide. Available in all Maybank branches until Oct. 31. For more inquiries, visit the nearest Maybank branch nationwide or call 521-7451.

Finex forum airs on TV

THE FINEX Leadership Forum entitled "In Search of a Servant Leader " will be shown over ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC 21), tonight at 9:00 p.m. Guest speakers are: Former Sen. Raul Roco, Sen. Loren Legarda, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay, Jr. and MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando.

FECCCII GOES ON OBSERVATION TOUR OF SHENZHEN, CHINA

Members of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Inc. (FFC-CCII) recently went on a business observation tour of the Shenzhen Gongsuda Logistics (Holding) Co Ltd, and the Shenzhen Q-Mart in China, laying the foundation for a meaningful international business partnership. The two companies visited by the delegation were chosen as FFCCCII's agents for the commodity purchase, and import and export business. The FFCCCII delegation was headed by FFC-CCII vice president Henry Ah, with Lee Keng Chua as deputy head, Domingo Chua as adviser, and Kho Tian, Peng Kun Ching and Eduardo Bangayan as members. The observation tour was hosted by Gongsuda chair of the board Wang Wei Xiong, Q-Mart purchasing director Paul Huang, Richmarsh (Phils) country manager Robert Huang and Richmarsh (Phils) general manager Tony Ma.



90-YEAR OLD TO RUN IN DIRECT LINK'S 5K/10K OPEN CLASSIC

Greg Poblador, first vice-president and general manager of Direct Link Car Insurance, shakes hands with Raymond San Juan, a 90-year old active member of the Direct Link Runner's Club, during an audience held for the launching of the Direct Link 5k/10k Open Classic on Oct. 26 in Makati City. With them are (from left): Romeo Morales, club president; Leo Villafania, assistant treasurer; Alex Frizzle, secretary; Mario Poblador, assistant manager; Fernando Montiel, adviser; Maribel Lorbes, business manager; Naven Quemado, Direct Link advertising and promotions manager and Graciano 'Totoy' Santos, club treasurer.

AIM SUCCESSFULLY PASSES EQUIS

The Asian Institute of Management (AIM) has successfully passed the stringent quality assessment process of the European Quality Improvement System (Equis), an international system of strategic audit ad accreditation of higher education institutions in management and business administration. AIM is now among the 61 business schools all over the world that have been awarded this European Quality Label and is only the second management school in Asia to be accredited. Photo shows AIM dean of the Institute Ma. Nieves Confessor receiving the EFMD diploma from Equis director Julio Urgel during the awarding ceremonies held in Brussels, Belguim.

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Teledatacom Phils unveils new image

TELEDATACOM Phils Inc, a subsidiary of Mainboard-listed leading communications services company, Teledata (Singapore) Limited (Teledata), has completed a corporate re-branding campaign to revitalize its brand. These include an integrated marketing communications plan encompassing a new company logo and the entire range of new corporate identities.

The new image of Teledatacom Phils Inc will embrace the brand identities and values of its parent company in Singapore. Following the successful launch of the new Teledata in Singapore on July 2003, its Philippines office unveilED its new image at a public launch last September 19, 2003 to all its customers, business partners and staff.

Explaining the new image, Danny Cuevas, president of Teledatacom Phils Inc said, "This re-branding initiative allows us to offer a unified brand position to our customers. We can leverage on the parent company's resources and tap on the synergies of cross-selling that meet the complete technology needs of our customers. Ultimately, our aim is to enhance customer service and regional support."

Teledata has grown from a humble start-up of four staff to a regional company with 300 staff, more than 700 customers in 14 countries and offices spanning across 8 countries.

Teledatacom Phils Inc was incorporated in the Philippines in 1995. With a start-up of six staff, it has grown to one with twenty-six staff and has since served a blue-chip portfolio of reputable commercial and government organizations in the Philippines.

Some of Teledatacom Phils Inc key customers include Citibank, Equitable PCIBank, Philip Morris, Lucent Technologies, Prudential Life, American International Underwriters Corp, Fluor Daniel and Globe Telecom.

Today, the company has grown beyond its original heritage in providing voice solutions. The new corporate image better reflects Teledata's current competencies and business offerings in communications services.

Teledata now offers a wide range of innovative solutions including Call Centre, Convergence, Enterprise Backbone, Infrastructure, Operations and Management, Network Security, Surveillance and Services.

Andrew Wilson, Teledata's regional marketing director said, "The new logo represents the new Teledata. We are a company of many parts, some small, some large, and each part is working together in a cycle of growth. The new colour represents the innovation and energy that is driving the company."

LUZON BAYER YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL ENVOY FINALISTS

11 college students made it as the Luzon finalists in the 2003 Search for Bayer Young Environmental Envoys. 24 finalists have been selected nationwide, out of which 12 will be selected as the Bayer Young Environmental Envoys for 2003. Judging is being conducted regionally. Photo shows the Luzon finalists with the judges. Standing (from left): Margret Tañgan from Ateneo de Manila University; Diana Mallari from the University of the Philippines; Andrew Zubiri from UP Los Baños; Grant Cheng from De La Salle University; Bernard Albano from Mariano Marcos State University, Batac; Emil Lacayan Jr. from De La Salle University; Gilbert Hamera from Saint Louis University, Baguio City; Reginald Andal from De La Salle, Lipa; Lea Foy-Os from Benguet State University; Abicel Filio from the University of Northeastern Philippines, Iriga City; and Denise Tria from the Universidad de Santa Isabel, Naga City. Seated (from left) are the three judges: Tess Cayton, Bayer Phils plant and public affairs manager, Odette Alcantara, head of the Earth Day Network Philippines, Reynaldo Esguerra, science and research specialist from the Department of Science and Technology and Dorothy Claro, regional corporate communications manager - Asean.

EYE CARE WE CARE MEDICAL TEAM
DR. KADIL M. SINOLINDING JR., DPBO
MATABAI A. LIM, DPBO • JERRELL CARANCIO, RN
TUGUEGARAO CITY GOVERNMENT

BANCO DE ORO SUPPORTS MANILA JAYCEES PROJECT

Banco de Oro partners with Manila Jaycees for the latter's year-round charity projects. Most recently, BDO participated in the Eye Care We Care project in Tuguegarao. Dr. Kadil Sinolinding Jr., TOYM 2000 and 2001 TOYP awardee, led the team of health practitioners in operating at least 50 cataract patients in Tuguegarao City. The project was co-sponsored by Tuguegarao City Mayor Randolph Ting and Tuguegarao Ybanag Jaycees president lawyer Milagros Cayosa. Shown in photo are the patients who were successfully operated.

Outstanding Filipinos cited by Korean Association

FILIPINOS who helped create a closer relationship between the Philippines and South Korea were given due recognition during the recently-concluded 12th Filipino Korean Cultural Exchange Festival at the Manila Film Center.

Awarded plaques of recognition that served as the highlight of the festival were veterans of the Philippines Expeditionary Force to Korea (Peftok), Filipino soldiers who gave their lives during the Korean war in 1950 to 1953, Samara Leprosy Mission, Police Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (Pacer) and The Helping Mission.

The festival is an annual project of the United Korean Community Association, umbrella association of all Koreans community organizations in the Philippines since 1969. Through this event, some 40,000 Koreans plus more than 2,000 Korean establishments and about 300,000 Filipino employees share their love and are united in one spirit of friendship and camaraderie.

Better known as the "Korean Association" the said group aims among others, to forge "a good partnership and neighborly care," among their Filipino counterparts, achieving said objective through regular activities and special events.

Ucka president Jae Jung Jang said that among its accomplished and successful projects include "Let's Clean Manila Bay," an environmental support program with the city of Manila and Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, a blood donation project under it's "Let's Share the Blood," plus free medical services at rural poor areas under the Korean Medical Service program.

The Korean Association believes that through these worthy endeavors, both countries could share God's blessings for one another.

ABS-CBN BANTAY BATA 163
Solmux Kiddie Cough Clinic

SOLMUX, BANTAY BATA 163 FORGE PARTNERSHIP

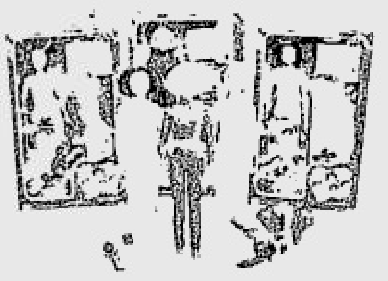
Solmux has just forged a partnership with the Bantay Bata Foundation for an offshoot of the 'The Pambatang Solmux Kiddie Cough Clinic', a free medical assistance program for school-aged children and family. Gracing the launch of this venture are Tina Monzon-Palma, program director for Bantay Bata 163 and Jun Vivar, VP-Unilab Consumer Health (3rd and 4th from left, respectively) with Nette-nette Torres, external affairs officer for BB 163; Kate Contreras, external affairs coordinator for BB 163; Trisha Siojo, product manager for Solmux; and Joey Romana, AVP-Unilab Consumer Health.

Product FILES

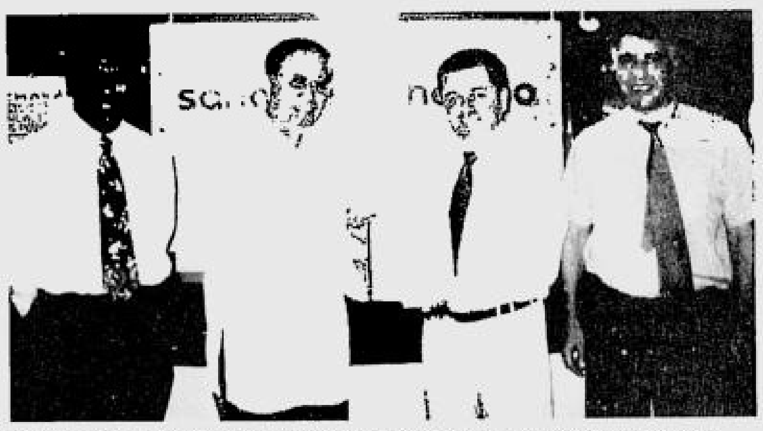
Barkada fun with SeaCrunch

Jack 'n Jill has come up with a new snack trip that is perfect for the barkada who like to hang out called Jack 'n Jill SeaCrunch. The unique seafood-shaped snack found in every SeaCrunch snack pack is sure to be a winner with the barkada. It has two delectable, savory seafood flavors, salt and vinegar, and spicy prawn, that teens would really love. And they can enjoy SeaCrunch anywhere, anytime. Whether it's going to the movies together, watching a rock concert, strolling inside the mall, or going on an adventure trip. Jack 'n Jill SeaCrunch sure comes in handy.

Totally Spies dolls



MEET the Totally Spies gals, three winsome and smart action-figure dolls whose mission is to battle super villains and save mankind with a total sense of style. Each of the three lovely action-figure dolls comes with high-tech accessories. Totally Spies dolls are exclusively distributed by Ban Kee Trading Inc and are available at all leading department stores nationwide.



SANOFI-SYNTHELABO APPOINTS GETZ BOTHERS

Sanofi-Synthelabo Phils, a leading group in the field of pharmaceuticals, recently appointed Getz Brothers as the exclusive distributor for its oral care products. Shown during the contract signing are (from left): Ed Mauricio (division manager, Getz), Remy Rodil (VP/controller, Getz), Peter Dolinsky (president, Sanofi-Synthelabo) and Gilles Morizet (VP finance, Sanofi-Synthelabo).

PHILAMLIFE'S TOP AGENCY OPENS NEW MALL OFFICE

Philamlife-Antonio Associates, the company's leading agency, recently inaugurated its newest office at the lower ground level of Festival Mall in Alabang. President and CEO Jose Cuisia Jr. (left) and EVP for sales and marketing Josefino Sto. Domingo (right) led the ribbon cutting ceremonies, assisted by Antonio Associates unit manager Zenaida Antonio. Looking on were (from left) Antonio Associates senior agency manager Isagani Antonio, Philam Care EVP for sales and marketing Rowena Cruz, officiating priest Fr. Basil Apostol and other Philamlife executives and agents.

DOE SECRETARY VISITS TOTAL LPG PLANT

Department of Energy Secretary Vincent Perez (third from left) recently visited Total (Philippines) Corp. liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refilling plant for an inspection of its manufacturing facilities. Joining Perez were (from left) DOE Oil Industry Management Bureau director Zenaida Monsada; managing director Jeff Attwood; LPG manager Tito Velasquez and DOE undersecretary JV Emmanuel de Dios.

Clips

Hershey's promo

HERSHEY'S Drive or Dive for Cash promo gives you the chance to win a brand new BMW X5 or P5 million in cash. Just buy Hershey's Kisses and Nuggets. Present your proof of purchase at the Hershey's booth in selected malls near you. Every P150 worth of purchase gives you one chance to guess the 7-digit combination of the Hershey's vault. Watch out for the Hershey's Vault in these malls. Alabang Town Center (Oct. 20 to Oct. 26) Ayala Center Glorietta 2 (Oct. 27 to Oct. 31) SM Megamall (Nov. 1 to Nov. 5) Robinson's Place Manila (Nov. 6 to Nov. 12) SM North Edsa (Nov. 13 to Nov. 19) SM Megamall (Nov. 20 to Nov. 26) Ayala Center Glorietta 2 (Dec. 15 to Dec. 23).

PetsCapade 2: A Pet's Affair

FESTIVAL Supermall celebrates World Animals Day with the biggest pet event in the south - "PetsCapade 2: A Pet's Affair" featuring a pet fashion show, pet health care and grooming lectures, and free pet check-up with guest veterinarians today, plus an exhibit of pet accessories from Oct. 26 to 30, all at the Carousel Court, level 2. Pet owners can also join the "Dress up Your Pet" and "Animal Dream Home" creative competitions by signing up at the mall's customer service counter together with a minimum purchase worth P500 (single receipt) from any shop at the mall. For more information, call Em Sangil, advertising and promotions coordinator, at 850-3517 to 32 local 226 or customer service at 850-3514.

'Children helping other children'

FOR THE whole month of October, Bistro Group of Companies composed of TGI Fridays and Outback chain of restaurants, together with Vision Concept and Children Now Working Committee will be celebrating Children's Month with its theme "Children helping other children". BGC have invited some kids to participate in the Finger-Painting art activity and be able to help through their art works that will be auctioned at Alabang Town Center Town Plaza, today, 4 p.m. in which, the proceeds will go to Children Now Projects.

FINEX OFFERS FINANCIAL EXPERTISE TO SMES

The Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, signed a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), to formalize its commitment to provide financial expertise of its volunteer members as business counselors for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Finex will also assist DTI in the promotion of guarantee and lending programs to SMEs. The Business Counselors Program supports the government's call to support SMEs. Signing the agreement are (from left) Plantersbank executive vice president and Finex-SME committee chair Lamberto Scarella, Small Business Guarantee Fund Corp chair Zorayda Amelia Alonzo, Finex president Edgardo Limon and SBCorp president Benel Lagua.

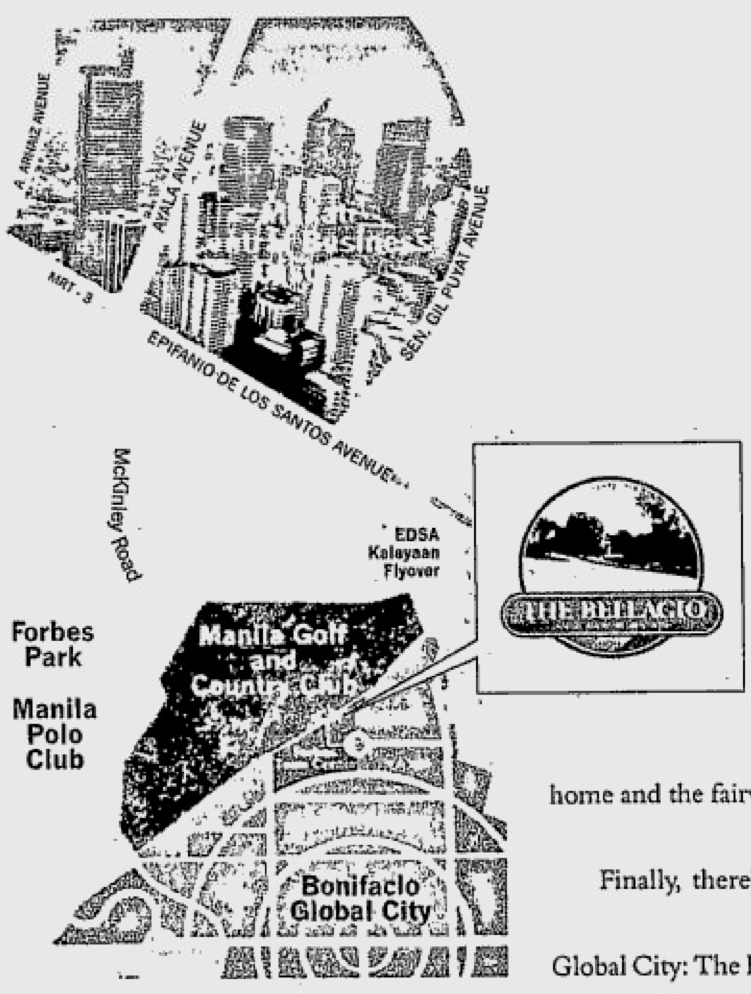
LBC BANK, NEXUS, HP SIGN AGREEMENT

LBC Bank awards its New Core Banking System Hardware requirements to Nexus Technologies Inc., in partnership with Hewlett-Packard Philippines. This new system will enable LBC Bank to integrate its core operations. With the system's Relationship Information Management (RIM) feature, customers can transact at any LBC Bank branch without the restriction of incomplete information. The system will allow access of customer information in all branches for better service efficiency. Shown signing the contract are Nilo Cruz, president and GM of HP Philippines; Max Malagar, president of LBC Bank; Liza Berenguer, chairman of the board and CEO of LBC Bank; and Juan Chua, president of Nexus Technologies Inc.

You can almost touch it.

THE BELLAGIO
GOLF VIEW RESIDENCES

Fronting Manila Golf & Country Club


A. ARNAIZ AVENUE
AYALA AVENUE
SEN. GIL PUYAT AVENUE
MRT - 3
EPIFANIO DE LOS SANTOS AVENUE
McKinley Road
EDSA Kalayaan Flyover
THE BELLAGIO
Forbes Park
Manila Polo Club
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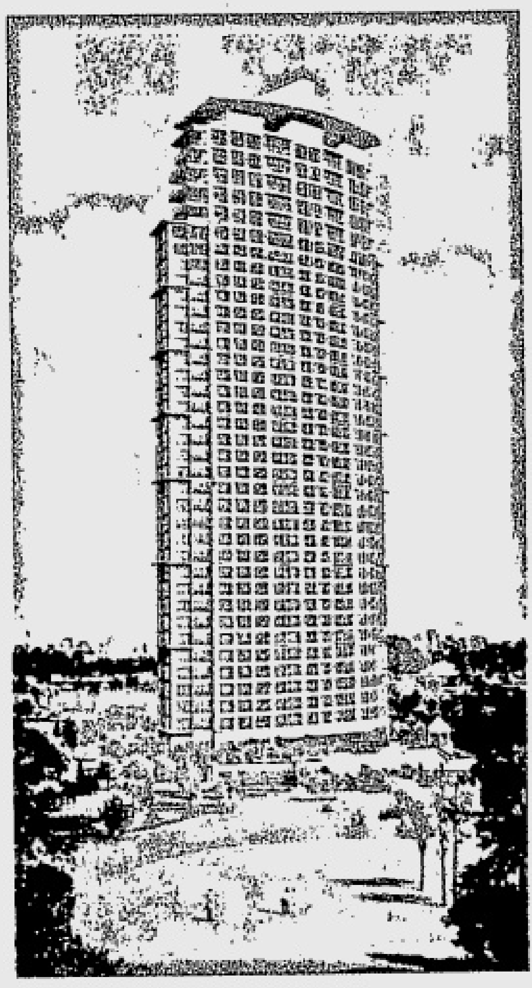

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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

8 FIGURES. Jerry Yan (left) and Vic Zhou reportedly are getting more than Vaness Wu and Ken Zhu did.

2 more F4 stars to get 8-figure talent fee /C8

Boy: Kris hard to replace on 'The Buzz' but Cristy's OK /C2

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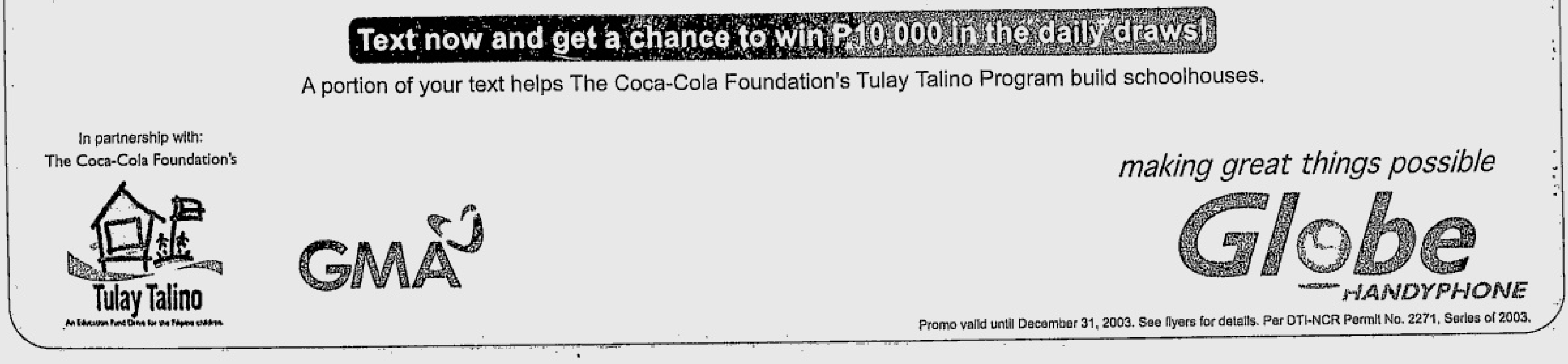

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KENKOY KLASIKS by Tony Velasquez

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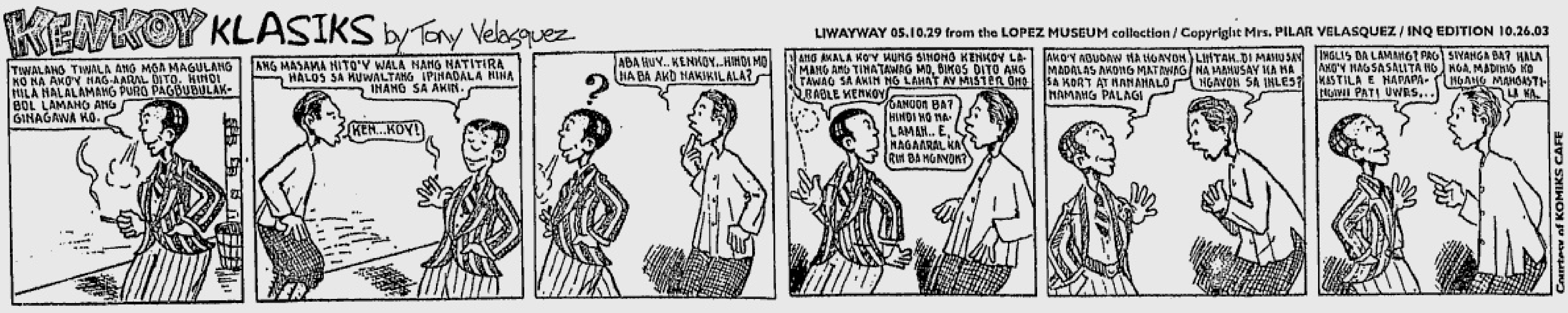
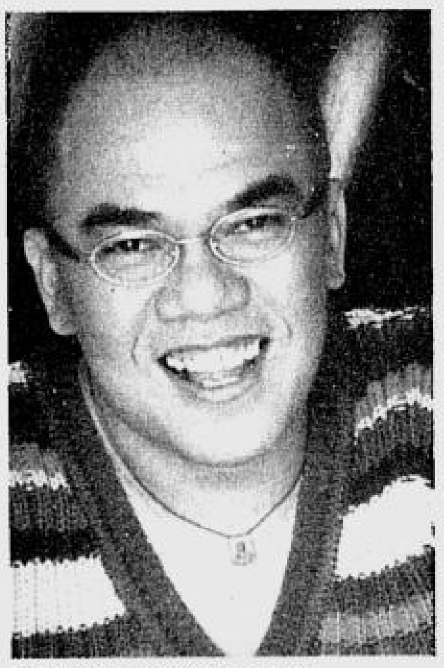

TIWALANG TIWALA ANG MGA MAGULANG KO NA AKO'Y NAG-AARAL DITO. HINDI NILA NALALAMANG PURO PAGBUBULAKBOL LAMANG ANG GINAGAWA KO.
ANG MASAMA NITO'Y WALA NANG NATITIRA HALOS SA KUWALTANG IPINADALA NINA INANG SA AKIN.
KEN...KOY!
?
ABA HUY.. KENKOY.. HINDI MO NA BA AKO NAKIKILALA?
ANG AKALA KO'Y KUNG SINONG KENKOY LAMANG ANG TINATAWAG MO, BIKOS DITO ANG TAWAG SA AKIN NG LAHAT AY MISTER ONORABLE KENKOY
GANOON BA? HINDI KO NALAMAN... E NAGAARAL KA RIN BA NGAYON?
AKO'Y ABUGAW NA NGAYON. MADALAS AKONG MATAWAG SA KORT AT NANANALO NAMANG PALAGI
LINTAK..DI MAHUSAY NA MAHUSAY KA NA NGAYON SA INLES?
INGLIS DA LAMANG? PAG AKO'Y NAGSASALITA NG KASTILA E NAPAPANGIWI PATI UWRS...
SIYANGA BA? HALA NGA, MADINIG KO NGANG MAGKASTILA KA.

Courtesy of KOMIKS CAFE

Boy: Kris hard to replace on 'The Buzz' but Cristy's OK

By Marinel R. Cruz


ABUNDA. "Cristy's good."

FERMIN. "90 percent"

CRISTY Fermin is "okay" as a co-host and replacement for Kris Aquino on "The Buzz," as far as Boy Abunda is concerned.

"Cristy is okay for me," Boy told INQUIRER Entertainment last Friday. "It's hard to find a replacement for Kris. But I think Cristy would be an effective host.

"She's a good host," Boy added. "She's my friend and hosting a talk show is what she does best."

Reports have said that Cristy would be permanently co-hosting "The Buzz" with Boy, but the latter said he could not confirm this since he had yet to meet with his ABS-CBN bosses to discuss Cristy's going on board as a permanent co-host.

However, according to a member of the staff of "The Buzz," Cristy's inclusion in the show as a co-host is already "90-percent sure."

"It's almost a done deal," added the staff member. "All it needs is for Cristy to go on the air as host."

Actress Gretchen Barretto, who has been co-hosting the show since Oct. 12 after Kris said goodbye to "The Buzz" four Sundays ago, is supposed to stay for one month.

The "Buzz" staff member said the show's producers had considered getting both Gretchen and Cristy to host with Boy, but failed to make a deal.

Boy said he was told that the two shows so far with Gretchen as co-host rated very well. But he added that Gretchen did not want to commit to hosting the show permanently, especially now that her partner, Antonio "Tonyboy" Cojuangco, has closed a multimillion-peso deal to acquire another network, ABC 5.

"Too bad Gretchen will only host the show for a month," Boy said. "The staff is starting to love her."

He said correspondents Jobert Sulcadito, Jayvee Villar, John Lapuz and Ricky Lo would continue staying on "The Buzz" with him.

The insider said ABS-CBN is also trying to get Gretchen and Kris to co-host the show once in a while.

Last Oct. 5, Kris announced on the show that she was leaving "The Buzz" because she no longer felt comfortable hosting a show that tackles the lives and problems of show biz celebrities since she has personal problems herself. She decided to leave the show following her sensational and violent breakup with her lover of one and a half years, Parañaque City Mayor Joey Marquez.

Cristy hosted the show biz talk show "Showbiz Lingo" with Butch Francisco in the late '90s. The show was replaced by "The Buzz" in 2000.

Miracles do happen

From page C3

from recyclable materials. Call 372-6799.

OFW conference

THE INTERNATIONAL Conference on OFW Savings, Remittance and Economic Potential will be held from Oct. 28 to 30 at the Bohol Tropics Resort.

It will bring together key Asian and European NGOs, civil society groups, migrant workers and government officials to discuss how remittances from Overseas Foreign Workers can be used to finance community and enterprise development projects. Call (63-2) 433-1292.

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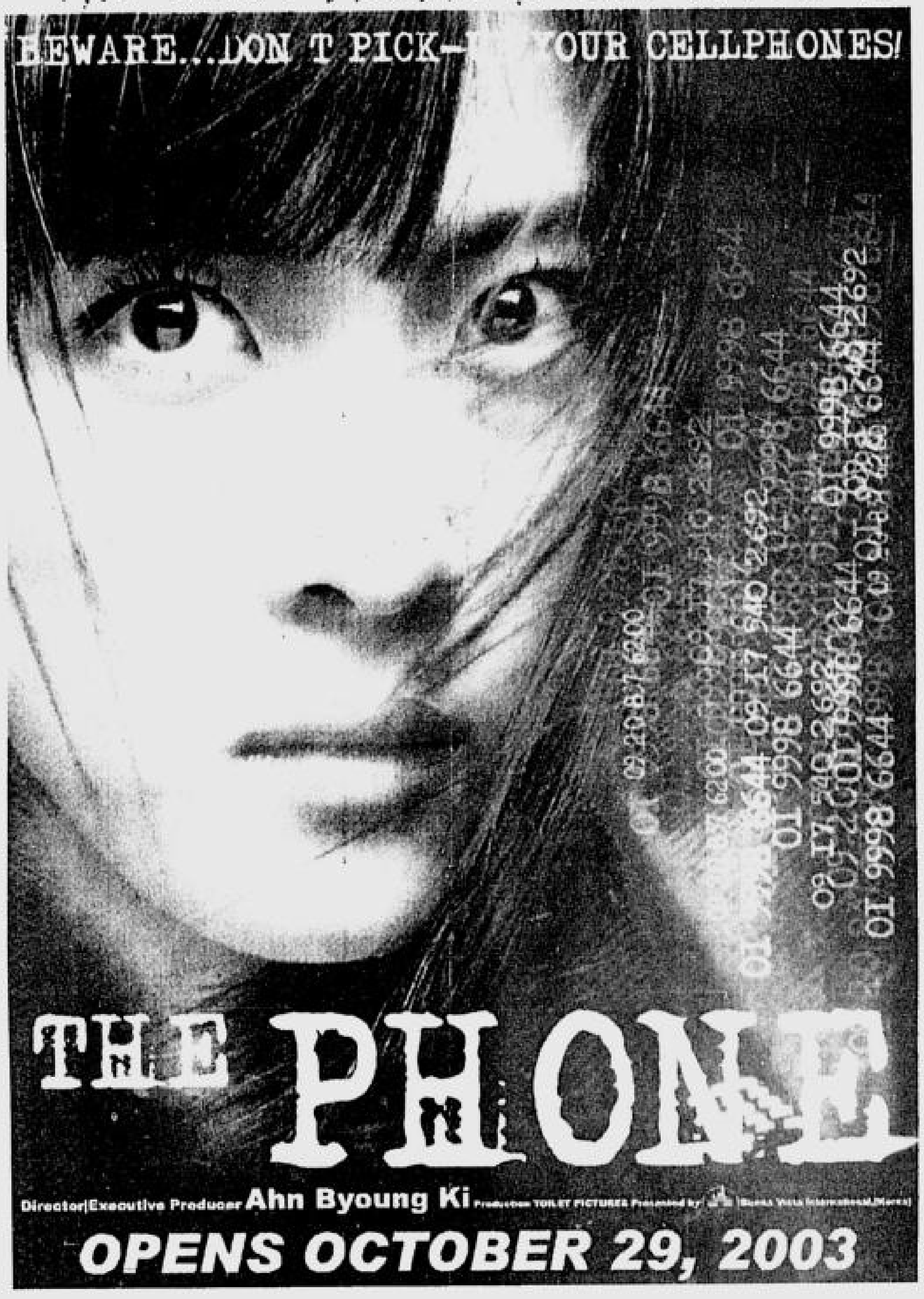
BEWARE...DON'T PICK-UP YOUR CELLPHONES!
THE PHONE

Director|Executive Producer Ahn Byoung Ki
OPENS OCTOBER 29, 2003

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	UTANG NG AMA
Ali 2	BUGBOG SARADO
Ali 3	UNDERWORLD
Ali 4	RUNDOWN
Ali 5	BELPHEGOR
Ali 6	THE SUSPECT
Ali 7	MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER

ARANETA COLISEUM

OCT 26	PBA: STA. LUCIA VS. PUREFOODS
OCT 27	UCAP 7-STAG DERBY
OCT 29	UCAP 7-STAG DERBY
NOV 2	PBA: SHELL VS. PUREFOODS
NOV 10	NCA NATIONAL 8-STAG DERBY

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SM CINEMA
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Regular showing on October 29, 2003 at the SM CINEMAS

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MY FIRST ROMANCE
Directed by: John-D Lazatin • Don Cuaresma

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BRITTANY MURPHY
DAKOTA FANNING
They're about to teach each other how to act their age.
Uptown Girls

OPENS OCTOBER 29

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Miracles do happen

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

TELEVISION has become the happening medium of choice for entertainment buffs, with numerous program and casting innovations to keep viewers interested:

On Destiny Cable, the acclaimed documentary series "Little Miracles" enables viewers to witness real-life dramas as they unfold at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada: miracles of kindness and caring, scientific discoveries, and new lifesaving procedures. "Little Miracles" is telecast Thursdays at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Also on Destiny, the worst disasters captured on video are screened on "What Went Wrong"—plane crashes, earthquakes, collapsing buildings, etc. Every Monday at 12 midnight and 12:30 a.m., 3:45 and 4:10 a.m., and 11:15 and 11:40 a.m.

On Star World, new seasons of "Roswell" and "Dark Angel" are being telecast. "Joe Millionaire" premiered on the channel earlier this month and is screened every Thursday at 8 p.m.

On the National Geographic Channel, "Croc Crocodiles" is seen every Tuesday and Thursday at 5 p.m., and every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Gator Doc **Brady Barr** regales viewers with features on Florida Everglades alligators, Cuban jumping crocodiles—and then some!

And on Nickelodeon, the new season of "Gruff's Groove Box" is off to a rip-roaring start at 9 a.m. every Saturday; "The Tomato Twins" is on at 10 a.m., and "SpongeBob Squareparts" delights viewers at 3 p.m.

Meanwhile, the "Nick Takes Over Your School with the Wild Thornberries" roadshow has taken off in key campuses around Metro Manila. Fun treats, cool treats and prizes were recently enjoyed by students at Miriam College, St. Benedict, Poveda Learning Center and Trinity College.

In November, the roadshow hosted by **Noel de la Rosa** will visit Siena College Taytay, Lourdes School Quezon City and Angelicum. The show features an animal show-and-tell portion, an animal lecturer who talks about some of the world's cutest pets, and the Wild Thornberries teaching kids about caring for the environment. Thumbs up!

In terms of talent movement and casting changes, **Pops Fernandez** now has two new shows on GMA 7. In the soap "Twin Hearts," she co-stars with **Rudy Fernandez**. And in the new sitcom "All Together Now," she plays a *balikbayan* and shares stellar credits with **Christopher de Leon**, **Edgar Mortiz** and **Johnny Delgado**, the Original Bad Bananas.

At ABS-CBN, **Bobby Andrews** has become a regular cast member of "Darating ang Umaga." He plays Raymond, a prosperous businessman who gets interested in Arriana (**Vina Morales**) after he sees her crying in the amusement park he owns.

Ariel bounces back

FOR a while there, **Ariel Rivera**'s career appeared to be in the doldrums. That was a pity, because Ariel is one of the better singers and actors we have.

Happily, Ariel has handily bounced back with a regular role on a TV soap and the release of his latest album, "In My Life," its carrier single, "Tell Me," and its music video, which was launched on "SOP Rules" last Oct. 12.

The music video, which reunites Ariel with **Regine Velasquez**, will be shown on MTV Philippines and MYX.

We hope that the movies will also rediscover Ariel as a leading man. Producers spend so much time and money building up callow newcomers who don't amount to much, while neglecting proven thespic talents like Ariel. It's such a waste.

Feedback

FROM **Paul Mortel**: "The new Nescafé commercial is a disappointment because it shows a negative aspect: Instead of studying hard, students are shown ecstatic when classes are called off.

"This is a far cry from their 15-second institutionals, one of which showed a child's unhappy reaction when his father beat an old man to a parking space, which imparted good values to viewers."

'Art Is-kool' exhibit

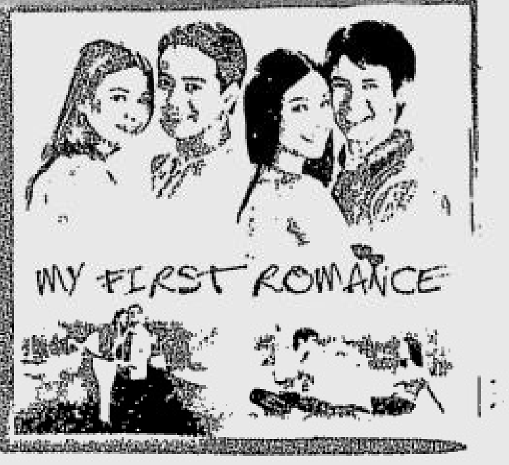
SIX months after its initial airing, the TV art workshop "Art Is-kool" has put up its first exhibit, ongoing at Café Papemelroti (91 Roces Ave., Quezon City). The Probe production is telecast on GMA-7 every Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

The exhibit showcases projects made and shown on the program—puppets, mobiles, scrapbooks, and host Kuya Robert's versions of stained glass and craft and art pieces made

MIRACLES/ C2

John Lloyd Cruz Bea Alonzo John Prats Heart Evangelista

MY FIRST ROMANCE



FEATURING:
- PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH MY HEART - HEART EVANGELISTA & HANS
- THE LOVE YOU WANT (TAGALIZED VERSION) - MICHELLE AYALDE
- IKAW NA LANG ANG KULANG - RED OF AKAFELLAS

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Congratulations to the winners of the 16th Awit Awards!

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SONG OF THE YEAR - *Only Selfless Love*
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BEST PERFORMANCE BY A FEMALE RECORDING ARTIST - *Bituin Escalante for Kung Ako Na Lang Sana*
BEST PERFORMANCE BY A NEW FEMALE RECORDING ARTIST - *Heart Evangelista for Love Has Come My Way*
BEST POP RECORDING - *Kung Ako Na Lang Sana*
BEST BALLAD RECORDING - *Hanggang*
BEST ROCK RECORDING - *Kailanpaman*
BEST TRADITIONAL RECORDING - *Hanggang*
BEST NOVELTY RECORDING - *This Guy's In Love With You Pare*
BEST INSPIRATIONAL/RELIGIOUS RECORDING - *Only Selfless Love*
BEST MOVIE/TV/STAGE THEME SONG RECORDING - *Langit Na Bituin*
BEST MUSICAL ARRANGEMENT - *Hanggang*

MARAMING SALAMAT PO!

STAR RECORDS ABS-CBN 16th awit awards PARI

A day in the life of 3 dailies

"I-WITNESS" on GMA 7 attempts to lift the shroud of mystery over the workings of a newspaper by documenting a day in the life of three dailies: the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the country's most influential broadsheet; Bulgar, the most widely circulated tabloid; and the Cebu-based Super Balita.

Reporter Howie Severino, a former newspaper journalist himself, and his "I-Witness" documentary team report on how these newspapers covered the news on the day of President Bush's historic visit to Manila.

As with any powerful institution, these newspapers are peopled by many ordinary, often colorful characters who have important social roles.

We meet several of them in the documentary, including the rare woman photojournalist who tries to juggle a demanding job and raising a child; the city editor who must mediate between his newsroom bosses and his reportorial troops in the field; the young reporter who covers grizzled cops; and the veteran photographer who is going blind.

Employing an editing technique often seen in feature films but rarely in a documentary, this episode switches from one scene to another in real time, to show what the various characters are doing from one hour to the next.

The "I-Witness" team's production crew is anchored by Egay Navarro, the nation's most accomplished documentary cinematographer who has been shooting the news since the riots that rocked Manila in the late '60s and early '70s.

"I-Witness" airs every Monday night on GMA 7, after "Saksi."

Natural healing pioneer on Channel 21

ABS-CBN Foundation, through SkyCable ANC Channel 21, features Filipino doctors practicing integrated and alternative medicine in the Sunday documentary series, "Natural Healing," hosted by Dyan Castillejo, produced by Gina Lopez and directed by Caesar Celestino.

Today's edition features one of the pioneers of natural healing in the country, Dr. A. Omar G. Arabia II, together with three of his documented, long-term recovered cancer patients.

Arabia's all-natural holistic approach refrains from invasive and toxic modes of treatment.

Instead, it taps the human body's incredible strength and ability to heal itself when given the proper biological environment.

"Natural Healing" airs at 4:30 p.m. on SkyCable ANC Channel 21.

'Hot & Wild Tour'

THE SEMIFINALISTS in the search for the "Hottest & Wildest Babes" are touring KTV bars until November.

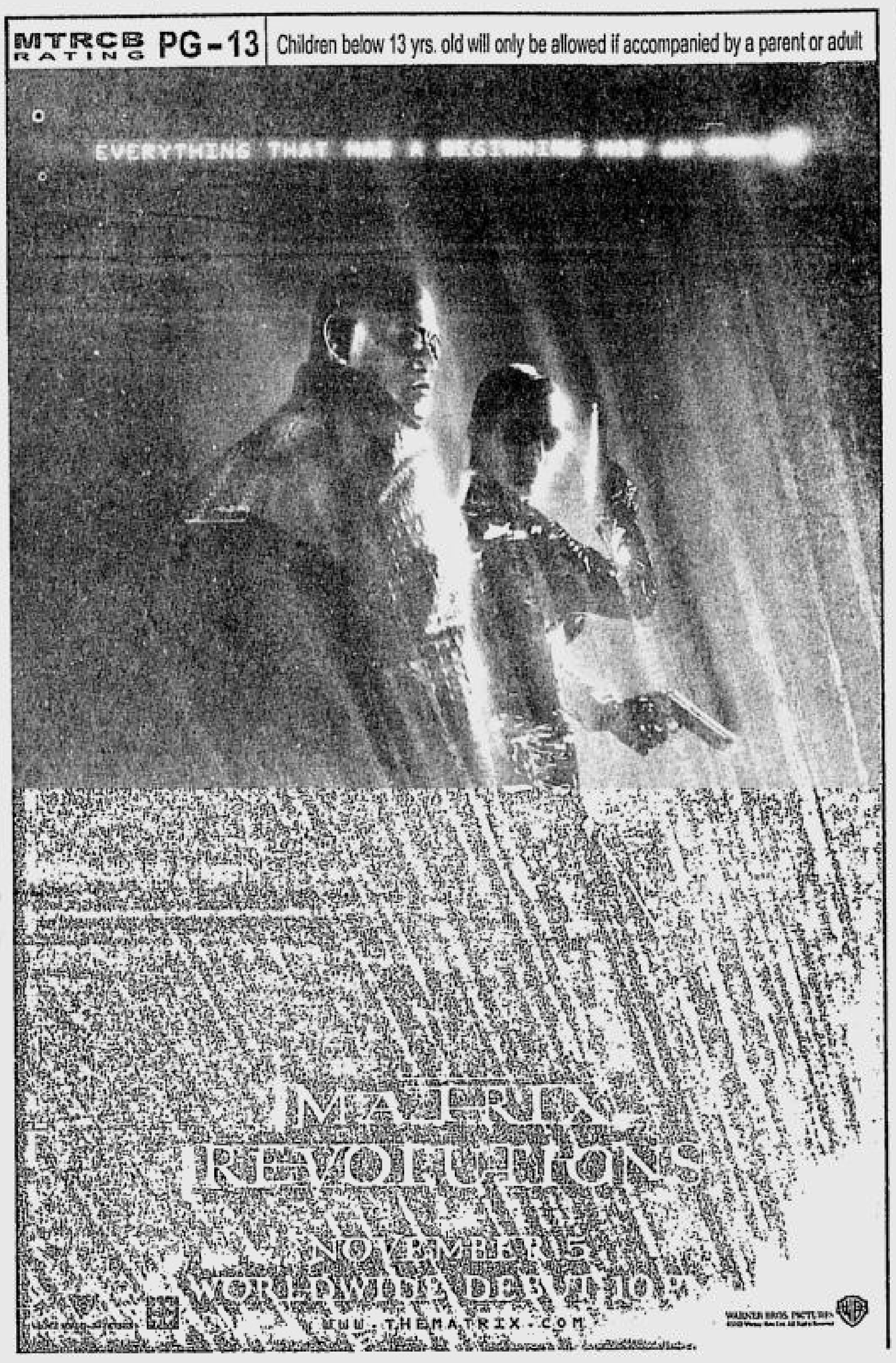
Among the venues in "The Hot & Wild Tour" are Skytrek in Sucat, Parañaque City, Pegasus and Heartbeat along Quezon Avenue in Quezon City, Love Boat in Caloocan and Pharaoh in Makati City.

The search is a multi-level bikini contest that kicked off last July. More than 200 girls aged 18-22 years old auditioned for the search. They will be trimmed down to only 12 in the semifinal round in November.

The grand finals will be held in December at the NBC Tent.

The Search for the Hottest & Wildest Babes is produced by Uptrend Concepts Management Corp. and presented in cooperation with Johnnie Walker Green label.

'ARIA'
Aria Llanes will perform in "Aria" on Oct. 30 at the AFP Theater in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The show will also feature Wency Cornejo and boyband Jeremiah. Aria, 20, is the longest defending champion in the history of "Sing-Galing," the popular videoke singing competition on TV where she reigned unbeaten for 21 consecutive weeks. The concert is a production of Charles Green Productions in cooperation with the PMA Hinirang Class of 1987. It is directed by Angelo Davocol, with Elmer Blancaflor as musical director. Major sponsors are San Miguel Corp., Coca-Cola Bottlers, Pagcor, PCSO, Johnny Walker, Bench and AMWSLAI. For reservations, call or text (0916)749-2031 or (0916)215-5777.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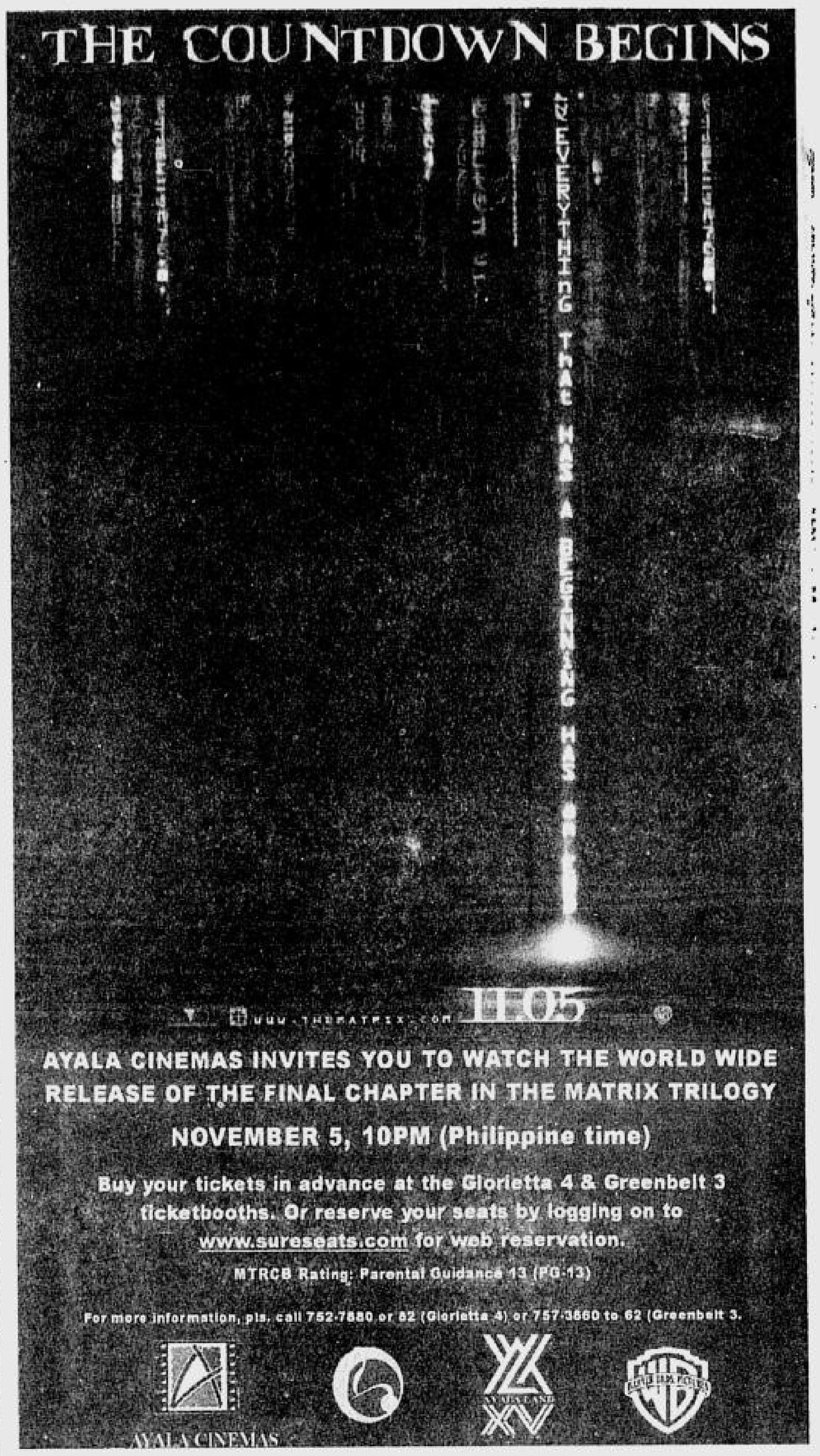
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SEANN WILLIAM SCOTT
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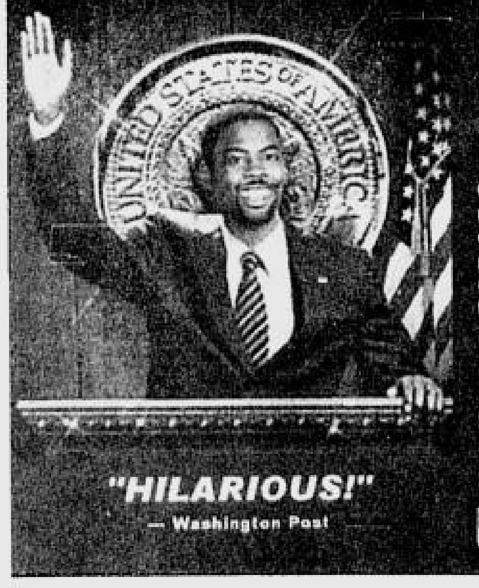
RUNDOWN
BULLS, GUNS, WHIPS, GOLD AND ONE SACRED CAT
New Int'l Action Superstar is born!
Wrestling champ The Rock, next Schwarzenegger in 'RUNDOWN'?
Seven-time world wrestling champion The Rock (SCORPION KING, "THE MUMMY RETURNS)" is star of THE RUNDOWN, a spectacular crowd-pleasing, no-holds-barred jungle-action adventure, and the No.1 movie in America.
The testosterone-packed movie launches The Rock as an International Action Superstar a la Arnold Schwarzenegger. Schwarzenegger shows his support for The Rock as the politics- bound action hero appears briefly in the slam-bang action comedy.
The Rock (or Dwayne Johnson) is Beck, a bounty hunter assigned to retrieve a wise-cracking double dealer played by Seann William Scott (Stifler in the American Pie movies), who is on a treasure hunt deep in the Brazilian jungle.
The Rundown features The Rock in a series of jaw-dropping fight scenes, including an eye-popping rumble in the jungle with our very own Ernie Reyes Jr., Fil-Am martial arts champion.
Simultaneously in Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cag. de Oro
NOW SHOWING NATION-WIDE!


THE ONLY THING WHITE IS THE HOUSE
HAIL TO THE CHIEF OF COMEDY
"CHRIS ROCK rules!
— Fox News Channel
HEAD of STATE
Chris Rock stars as Mays Gilliam, a Washington D.C. neighborhood Alderman, who's about to be red-lined out of his job. But after the untimely death of the party frontrunner, Gilliam is plucked from obscurity and thrust into the limelight as his party's nominee -- for President of the United States.
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Ayala Center Makati (Glorietta Activity Center), Oct 31, 3pm
Alabang Town Center, Oct 30, 1:30pm
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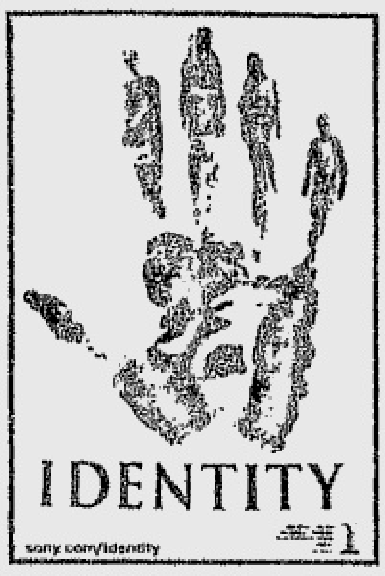
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Special Halloween Presentation!
A SMART, SCARY THRILLER
What if every choice we make was already decided for us? What if there really were no coincidences in life and our destinies were already predetermined?
From the producer of the SCREAM movies, comes IDENTITY, a smart, mind- bending thriller with a disturbing twist.
Ten strangers with secrets are brought together in a motel on a rainstorm. A limo driver (John Cusack), an '80s TV star (Rebecca DeMornay), a cop (Ray Liotta) who is transporting a killer (Jake Busey), a call girl (Amanda Peet), a pair of newlyweds and a family in crisis, all take shelter at a desolate motel run by a nervous night manager.
Relief in finding shelter is quickly replaced with spine-chilling fear as the 10 travelers die, one by one. They soon realize that, if they are to survive, they'll have to uncover the secret that has brought them all together.
SCREAM! The TERROR begins OCT29

OPENS OCT. 27 EXCLUSIVELY AT ArtFilm
SERIES, AWARD-WINNING, EXTRAORDINARY
DIANE LANE
UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN
"Lane has once again given an Academy Award - worthy performance!"
— Paul Clinton, CNN
35 year-old writer Frances Mayes perfect life takes an unexpected detour. Her recent divorce leaves her with writer's block and her best friend suggests 10 days in Tuscany. On a whim, Frances buys a villa there to start fresh. As she flings herself into her new life, she finds new friends and new romances. Can this be what she dreamed of? Will love last under the Tuscan sun?
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 13 (R-13)

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THE QUEST BEGINS TOMORROW NIGHT

DREAM

BELIEVE

SURVIVE

Hundreds of
young hopefuls
in a grand
battle of
wit,talent,
looks and
personality
for a chance
to become the
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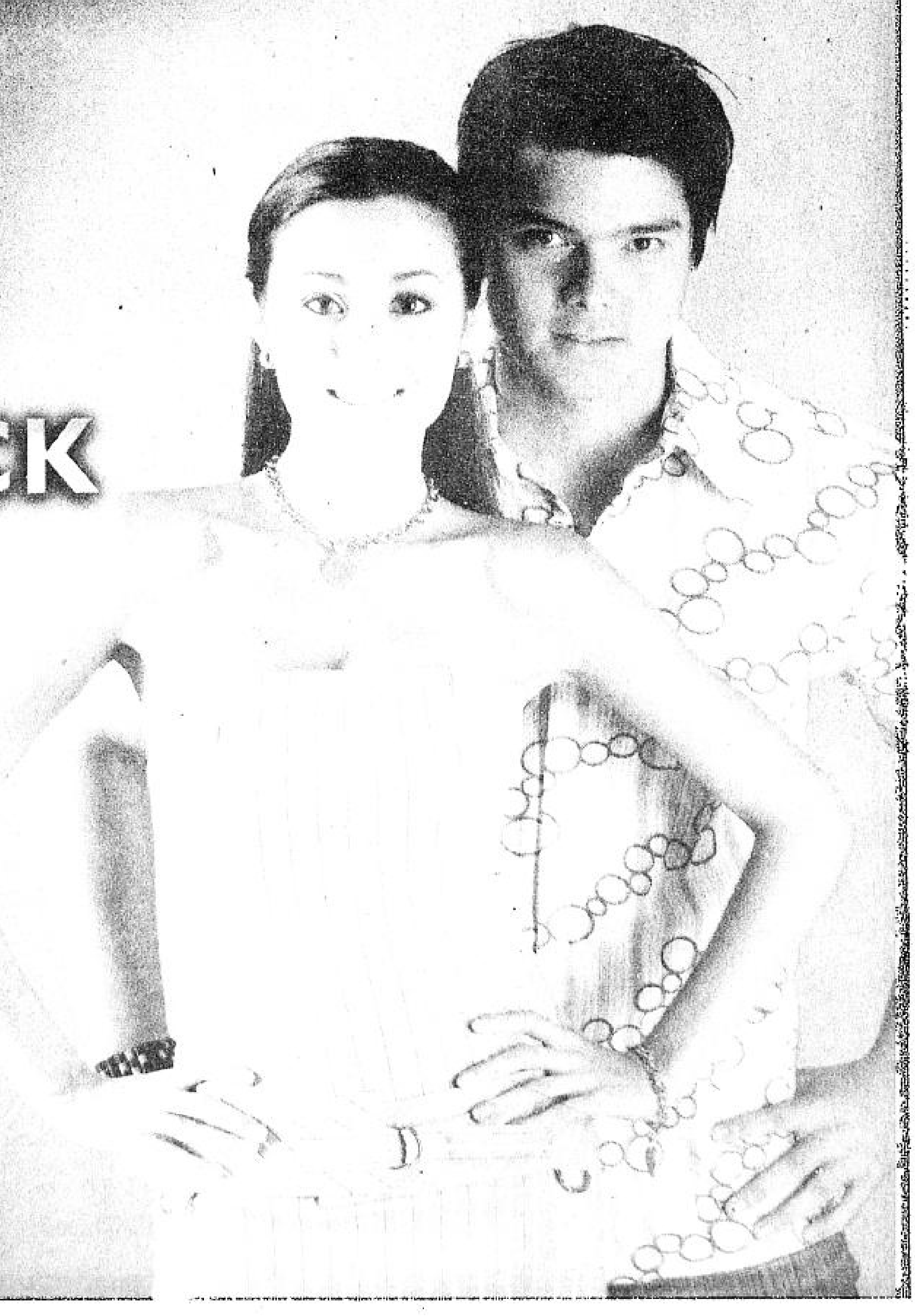


Hosted by DINGDONG DANTES
& NANCY CASTIGLIONE

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
after Extra Challenge

Another grand offering from
GMA ALL-OUT BLOWOUT!

Writing and Ricky Lee

JUICE

Jo-Ann Q. Maglipon

I'VE heard it said that no one can be harder on a writer than another writer. And I'm being polite. Because what I really heard said is that no one can hate a writer more than another writer.

Rather possibly, too.

Writing is about taste, still and all, and since there's no legislating taste, I can imagine how one writer's leavings can be another writer's juice.

And I imagine, too, how it can end: The bigger the writer, the more absolute the taste, the more sweeping the judgment.

Thus, the impolite becomes believable.

But to listen to **Ricky Lee** talk, I'm tempted to think I heard wrong.

The 55-year-old writer says: "I believe there is no one good writer. There is no best writer. They are all best writers. The combined energy of all writers is positive for the individual writer."

This is, of course, the man who gave us "Himala," about which the late **Ishmael Bernal** once said, with imperial certainty: "It's the perfect script. I didn't have to touch it." Coming from the writer-director of such modern classics as "Pagdating sa Dulo" and "Manila By Night," who's to argue?

LEE

But to hear Ricky say it, he does not play the ranking game. "I don't believe in pitting writers against writers. Life is hard enough with everyone else putting writers down. We shouldn't do it to ourselves. *Kaya hindi ako naniniwala sa* contests. *Hindi ako sumasali*. Except for two Palanca contests when I was starting, I never joined any contest again."

It comes from something he has lived, he says.

"*Karanasan ko sa* writer, *mabait*. Other writers have always been kind to me. *Si* **Wilfredo Ma. Guerrero,** I sent him fan letters, he sent me his books to sell *para may pera ako*. Second year high school *ako noon sa* Daet, *'tapos no'ng narito na ako sa* college, *kinupkop niya ako. Sa kanya ko natutunan na* generous *ang* writer.

"*Si* **Ben Medina,** *siya ang unang nagbigay sa akin ng* break. *Pinablish niya ang* short story *ko*. Fourth year high school *ako*, *sa* Daet *pa rin. Sa kanya ko natutunan na* supportive *ang* writer.

"*Si* **Pete Lacaba,** second year UP student *ako*, took me in as proofreader, *at* advise *nang* advise *sa* grammar, *lagi akong tinutulungan mula pa sa* 'Free Press,' 'Leader,' *at* activist days. *Sa kanya ko natutunan na walang inggit sa katawan ang* writer.

"*Sina* **Nick Joaquin, Greg Brilliantes, Ninotchka Rosca, Virgilio Almario,** *at pati si* **Carlos P. Romulo**—*lahat sila, pinansin ako nang* struggling *ako. Matulungin, hindi naglu*-look down. I grew up with the belief that *ang* writers *hindi kuripot*."

SANTOS

Batches and batches

Is Ricky for real?

It could've been hard to call.

Especially because this writer who now says that all writers are equal is, by any measure, above the throng.

Consider how he is today—and arguably for the last two decades—the most sought-after writer in local TV and film. It is he who has given ABS-CBN the edge in TV

WRITING/ C7

SEGUNDO FIRST. Butch Francisco and Kai Brosas introduce Argentinian actor Segundo Cernadas, star of the network's telenovela in the making, "Te Amo."

SHOW TIME

GMA 7 welcomes 5 newcomers

LAST Oct. 16 was a night of all-out fun and entertainment at Le Pavilion Metropolitan Park, where GMA Network gathered its officers, executives and stars along with members of the media for a grand blowout to welcome five new programs that are being launched one after the other.

Hosted by Butch Francisco and Kai Brosas, GMA's all-out blowout party teemed with raffle prizes, games, and food and drinks.

The stellar event was highlighted by the groundbreaking introduction of the network's newest shows: "Starstruck," "Twin Hearts," "All Together Now," "Lagot Ka Isusumbong Kita," and "Celebrity Turns" with Juni Lee and Lani Misalucha.

"Starstruck" is a reality-based talent search from which will emerge two young aspiring artists, one male and one female, who will be added to GMA's stable of stars.

Hosted by Dingdong Dantes and Nancy Castiglione, the innovative "Starstruck" will fire up many Filipinos' dream of becoming stars by urging them to believe in themselves and survive the challenges that will come their way.

More than a big talent search to be aired daily on prime time TV, "Starstruck" is a test of the contestants' endurance and determination to reach for their dreams.

The rest of the country not only stands witness but also plays a vital part in the selection of who among the contestants will survive to become GMA's newest stars.

As the newest teledrama to complete the GMA Telebabad block, "Twin Hearts" is a light drama revolving mainly around a performing arts school where two hearts bound to be together withstand even death to fulfill their destiny.

"Twin Hearts" stars Pops Fernandez, Rudy Fernandez, Lani Mercado, Jestoni Alarcon and the love triangle of Dingdong Dantes, Tanya Garcia and Dennis Trillo.

"Twin Hearts" is a tale of undying love that will surely endear itself to viewers.

"All Together Now" is a sitcom reuniting Christopher de Leon, Edgar Mortiz and Johnny Delgado of Goin' Bananas fame.

Pops also joins the cast, along with the love team of Angel Locsin and Railey Valeroso, as well as Alicia Meyer, Kakai Brosas, Gary Lim, and Contin, among others.

With its hilarious plot and wacky characters, "All Together Now" is a welcome treat.

Another sitcom to premiere soon is "Lagot Ka Isusumbong Kita," featuring Richard Gomez, Joey Marquez, Raymart Santiago and Benjie Paras as brothers who are bullies in their neighborhood.

The sidesplitting laughter starts when these tough guys cower in terror in front of their feisty mother, played by veteran singer-actress Pilita Corrales.

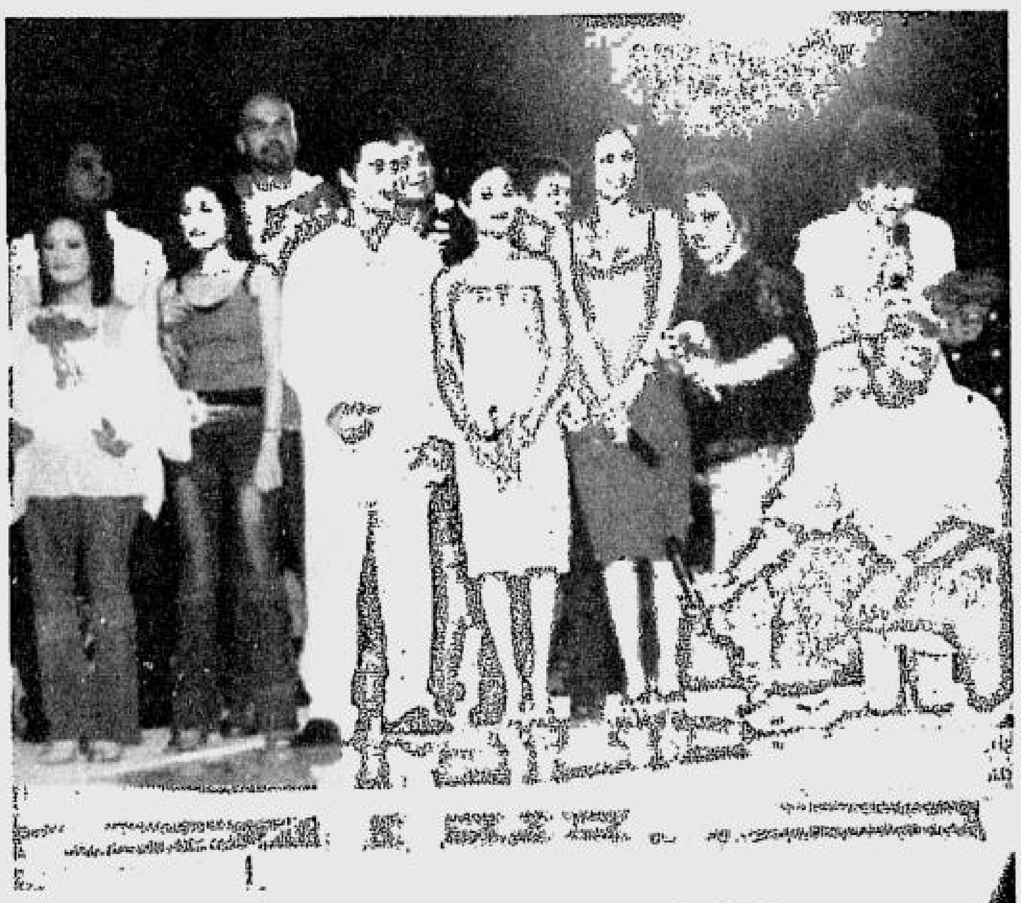
Another GMA innovation is the infotainment program "Celebrity Turns" with Juni Lee and Lani Misalucha. It showcases the hosting talent of Juni Lee, played by versatile comedian Michael V., and the exceptional singing of Asia's Nightingale Lani Misalucha.

With these five new shows, GMA had more than enough reason for a network-wide celebration.

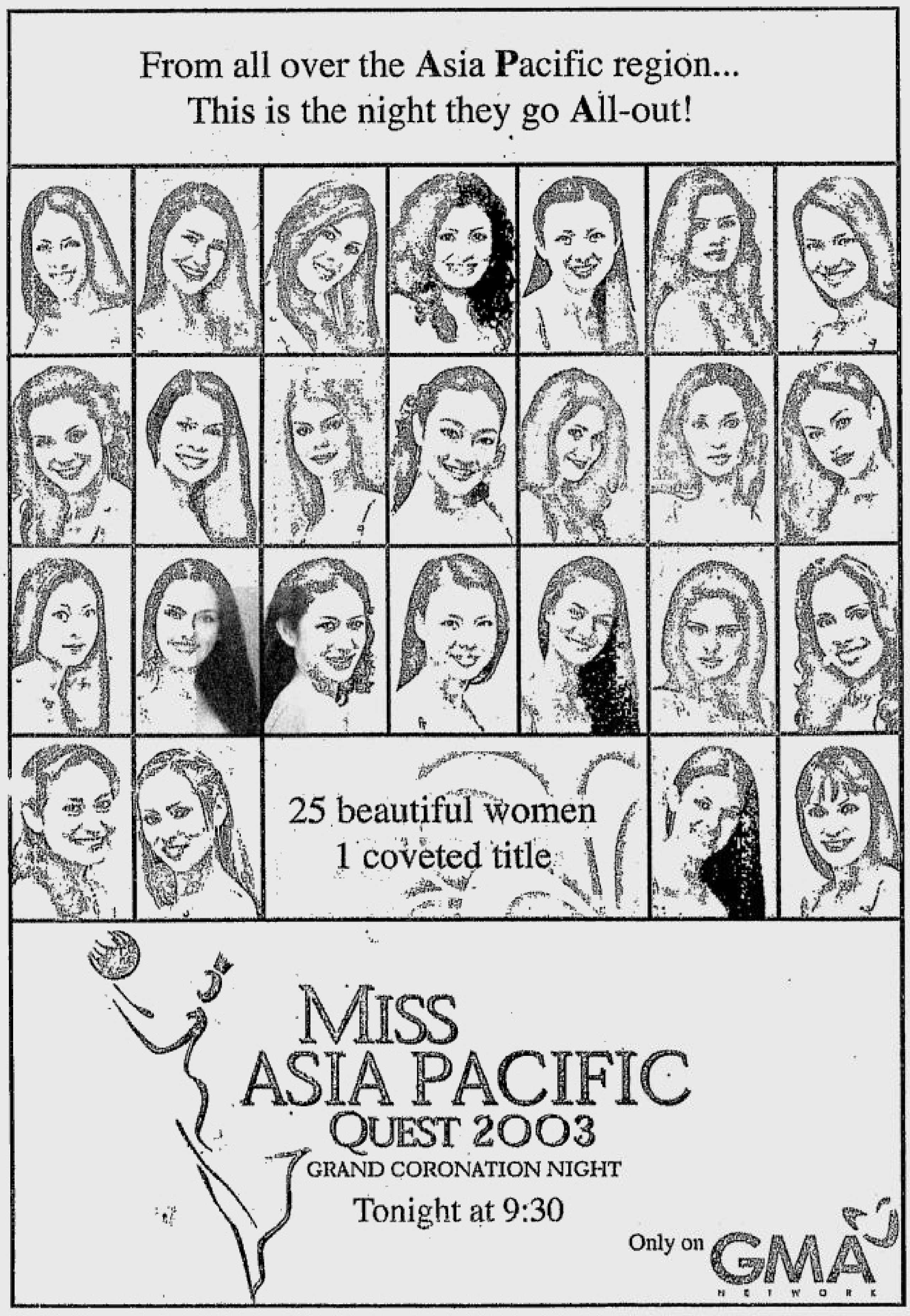
NETWORK president and CEO Felipe L. Gozon (right) is greeted by members of the cast of "Altogether Now."

DABOY AND THE EVP. Rudy Fernandez listens to GMA EVP and COO Jimmy Duavit.

BOYET AND BIG MEN. Christopher de Leon sandwiched by Edgar Mortiz and Johnny Delgado



THE CAST of "Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita," led by Pilita Corrales (right)



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3 MEN & AN ICON. Dolphy (right) in a once-in-a-lifetime performance with (Senator) Tito, Vic and Joey

'Kapamilya' special tonight

SHOW TIME

ABS-CBN celebrates 50 years of television history for two consecutive Sundays with the two-part television special, "Kapamilya: ABS-CBN at 50."

The first part of "Kapamilya" airs tonight at 9:30 p.m. The second part airs the following Sunday, Nov. 2, also at 9:30 p.m.

The event was actually held last Oct. 17 at the PICC Plenary Hall, and featured appearances by the network's stable of stars, along with TV greats who have not been seen on the network for the better part of a generation.

Performers and presenters include Dolphy, Tito Sotto, Vic Sotto and Joey de Leon, Vilma Santos, Sharon Cuneta, Aga Muhlach, Cesar Montano, Korina Sanchez, Kris Aquino, Ai-Ai de las Alas, Zsa-Zsa Padilla, Judy Ann Santos, Maricel Soriano, Piolo Pascual, Claudine Barreto, original "Student Canteen" host Leila Benetiz, and many others.

Maestro Ryan Cayabyab and the 60-member San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra provide elegant live accompaniment for the many numbers in the show. Cayabyab composed two original songs for the celebration. The first, "'Yan ang Kapamilya!" will be performed by Ai-Ai de las Alas; the second, "Lipad ng Pangarap," will be performed by Megastar Sharon Cuneta as the show's penultimate number.

TV HEAVYWEIGHT Nestor de Villa on the red carpet

LOVE TEAM Bea Alonzo and John Lloyd Cruz in a song and dance number

Writing and Ricky Lee

From page C6

drama, the genre in which the station has made its mark in both ratings and quality. And it is he who has been given the Lifetime Achievement Award for Screenplay by the Urian, the first writer to be so honored.

But in the end, what calls it in Ricky's favor is the life he's lived: He has been all of writer and teacher, and nothing but.

As writer, he was big time, and so could've left well enough alone. Instead, he plunged in. Taught everywhere he was invited, and then gave his welter of activities form with his Writers Studio, which from 1982 till the present counts 800 workshoppers through 14 batches.

Those workshoppers took over Ricky's life.

They picked his brains.

Ate his food and copied his CDs.

Borrowed his films and books and sometimes forgot to return them.

Owned his house every Sunday for two to three months.

And they got it all for free.

After every workshop, Ricky was wiped out.

But he did it anyway because, he says, a long time ago other writers did the same for him.

"*At hanggang ngayon*, the writer needs to know *na hindi siya nag-iisa*. A writer is always rejected, demeaned, discredited. His parents think he's a bum. His employers don't pay him in full. His name is misspelled. *O kaya nakakalimutan o di nabubuo sa* credits. *Totoo 'yan, ilang beses na. Di 'yan nangyayari sa artista o direktor. Kahit ngayon, tingnan mo pag may* gathering of more than three scriptwriters. *Panay* gripes *maririnig mo. Kumpara mo sa* gathering *ng mga direktor. Sila nagkukuwentuhan; mga* writer, *namomroblema*."

In the workshops, he says, the writers begin to see they are in truth not alone.

"*Ang daming naging magbarkada sa* workshoppers. *Naging* best friends. *Naging mag-asawa. Hanggang ngayon*, workshoppers find security in finding each other *sa* GMA *at* ABS."

Ricky's prize

Sure, Ricky says, he gets something back.

"With every workshop, I get a chance to meet new writers. *Nadadaanan ko uli ang pagiging* beginning writer. It's humbling. *Araw-araw, nakikita kong ang dami ko palang hindi alam. Akala ko lang malaki ang mundo ko*. A writer must always be beginning. The workshop helps me feel that. *'Yon ang bayad, 'yon ang kapalit sa akin.*"

And now they're everywhere.

A sneak peek at the list of past workshoppers includes **Jeffrey Jeturian, Leo Abaya, Bing Lao, Lav Diaz, Jerry Sineneng, Enrico Santos, Epy Quizon**...

Today, Sunday, at least 2,000 are expected to come in for Registration Day at Ricky's latest workshop.

"*At 'pag kausap mo sila, ang importante sa kanila ay mabigyan ng* another chance *ang* dreams *nila na makapagsulat*. So imagine the energy of all those dreams gathering in one place. It's enough to make me feel respectful."

ABS picks up bill

The big difference this year is that Ricky is collaborating with ABS-CBN, the station with which he is under contract as creative manager.

That means ABS-CBN is picking up the bill. The amount, say reliable sources, reaches a very generous P1 million.

"They didn't tell me what their budget is, but already I am so grateful to ABS, kina **Charo [Santos-Concio], Cory [Vidanes]**, at **Malou [Santos]**. They are giving writers the respect that's always been given *sa mga artista*. ABS has always been open to training and employing new writers, but this year it's on a grand scale. *Nagi*-invest *sila nang pangmatagalan sa* writers."

And they're doing it at a risk, he says.

"Writing is not an exact science. *Sa* workshop, *maaring me makuha silang mga mahuhusay, maaring hindi*. It's a gamble. And they must be the only TV station that has gambled like that on writers."

And so Ricky is calling ABS-CBN the workshop's saving grace.

In a perfect world, ABS-CBN would be calling Ricky the station's saving grace instead.

Send feedback to joann.maglipon@summitmedia.com.ph

DID YOU KNOW...

Actress-singer-host **Vina Morales** was seen dining with her good-looking Malaysian boyfriend at the California Pizza Kitchen at the Alabang Town Center last Sunday afternoon. Vina previously had a long relationship with Bukidnon Rep. **Juan Miguel Zubiri.**

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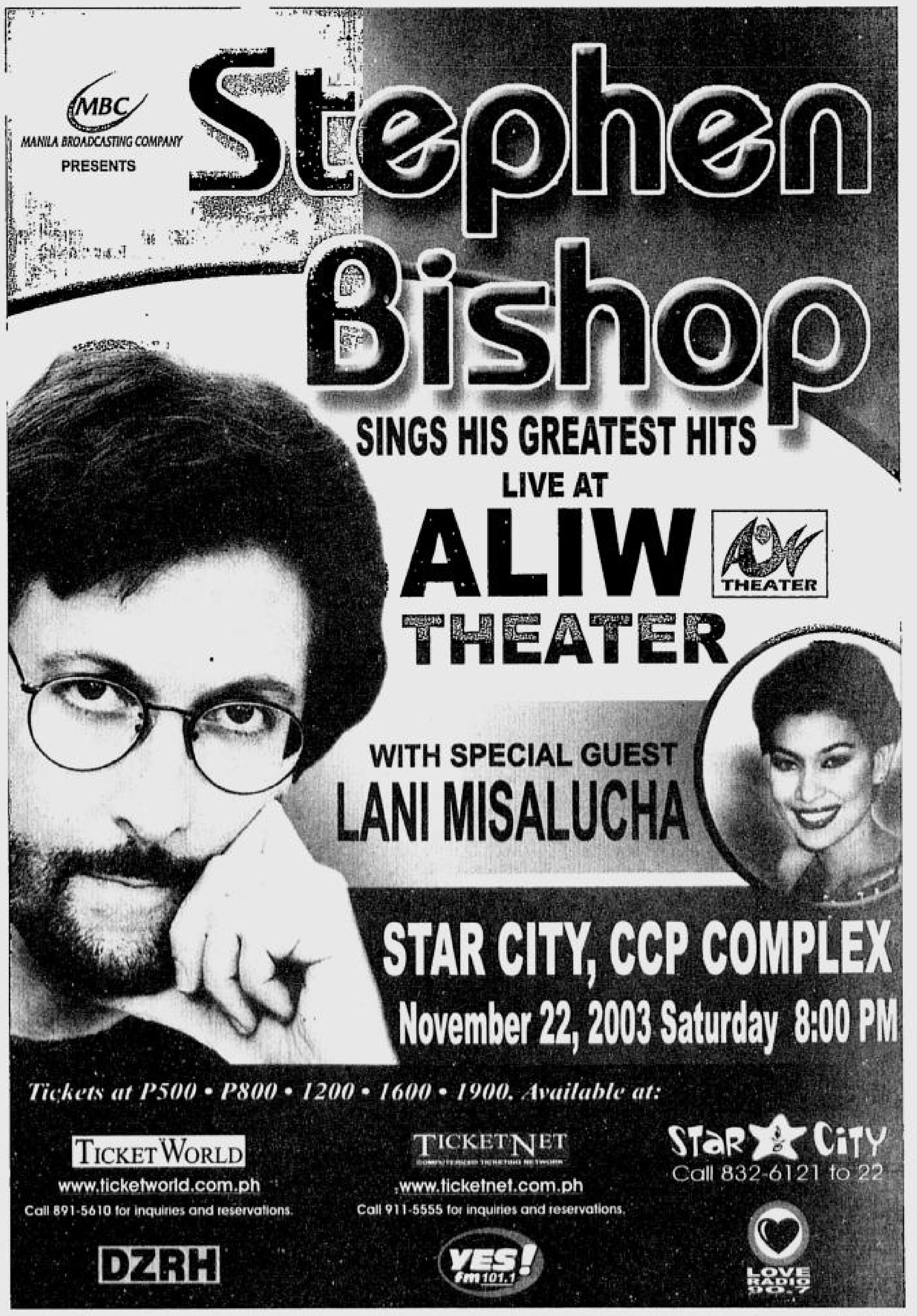

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ENTERTAINMENT

YAN THE HUNK is coming earlier for Bench, of which he is the newest endorser.

Dao Ming Si, Hua Zei Lei to receive '8 figures'

ZHOU, like Yan, speaks very little English. An interpreter will assist them during their visit.

By Marinel R. Cruz

AFTER the successful if riotous concert of F4's Vaness Wu and Ken Zhu at the Ultra Football Field ,last September, the two other heartthrobs from the disbanded Taiwanese pop group are also coming to Manila.

Jerry Yan and Vic Zhou are set to perform at The Fort in ABS-CBN's "Happy 50 TV: The Concert," on Nov. 29, according to Maloli Espinosa-Manalastas, the network's vice president for government, corporate affairs and public relations.

Network officials refused to disclose the amount of the talent fees of the two Taiwanese stars. But the fees alone are said to be in the whopping eight figures.

Jerry and Vic will perform with Barbie Xu and her younger sister Dee Xu, who had also performed with Vaness and Ken at the Ultra last Sept. 13.

Negotiations to bring Jerry and Vic to Manila started last month, when ABS-CBN executives met with the Taiwanese producers and talent managers of the artists. The deal was sealed only recently, when network officials led by senior vice president for TV production Cory Vidanes went abroad to sign the contract.

Jerry and Vic, stars of the phenomenally popular chinovela, "Meteor Garden," will be joined in the Fort show by local stars such as Ai-Ai de las Alas, The Hunks, Vina Morales, Kristine Hermosa, Claudine Barretto, and young love teams John Lloyd Cruz and Bea Alonzo, and John Prats and Heart Evangelista.

The Ultra concert of Vaness and Ken was produced by Susan Lim's Big Slim Productions, with ABS-CBN as co-presenter. The show of Jerry and Vic at The Fort will be produced solely by ABS-CBN.

Both born in Taiwan, Jerry and Vic hardly speak English, unlike Vaness and Ken. An interpreter will be on hand when Jerry and Vic visit Manila next month.

Jerry is said to be coming to Manila earlier, in the first week of November, to hold a press conference for Bench, of which he is a new image model. He will return to Manila with Vic on Nov. 28, a day before the concert.

Bench reportedly paid Jerry $250,000, or P14 million.

Minnelli seeks divorce from 'battered' husband

NEW YORK—Liza Minnelli parried estranged husband David Gest's lawsuit charging her with beating him up by filing for divorce in a court action made public on Thursday.

The suit was filed in Manhattan Supreme Court on Wednesday.

Details are sealed because it is a matrimonial matter.

Minnelli's move came one day after Gest hit his wife with a $10-million civil suit alleging spousal abuse. The two were married in March 2002.

Gest's lawyer, Raoul Felder, said he had not yet been served with papers. "I could care less," Felder said. "This is a dead marriage. It died in July when the couple separated."

On Wednesday, Minnelli replied to Gest's allegations that she often attacked him during drunken rages.

"I hoped very much that the end of my marriage would be handled with mutual respect and dignity," she said in a statement. "The allegations in this lawsuit are hurtful and without merit."

Gest said in his lawsuit that she had injured his head with her fists and that he suffers "throbbing pain, severe headaches, vertigo, nausea, hypertension, scalp tenderness and insomnia."

The suit states he takes 11 medications a day to treat his pain and injury.

Gest said Minnelli, daughter of the late singer Judy Garland and film director Vincent Minnelli, once threw a lamp at him when he tried to calm her down. His suit said Minnelli's heavy vodka drinking gave her "remarkable force and strength." *Reuters*

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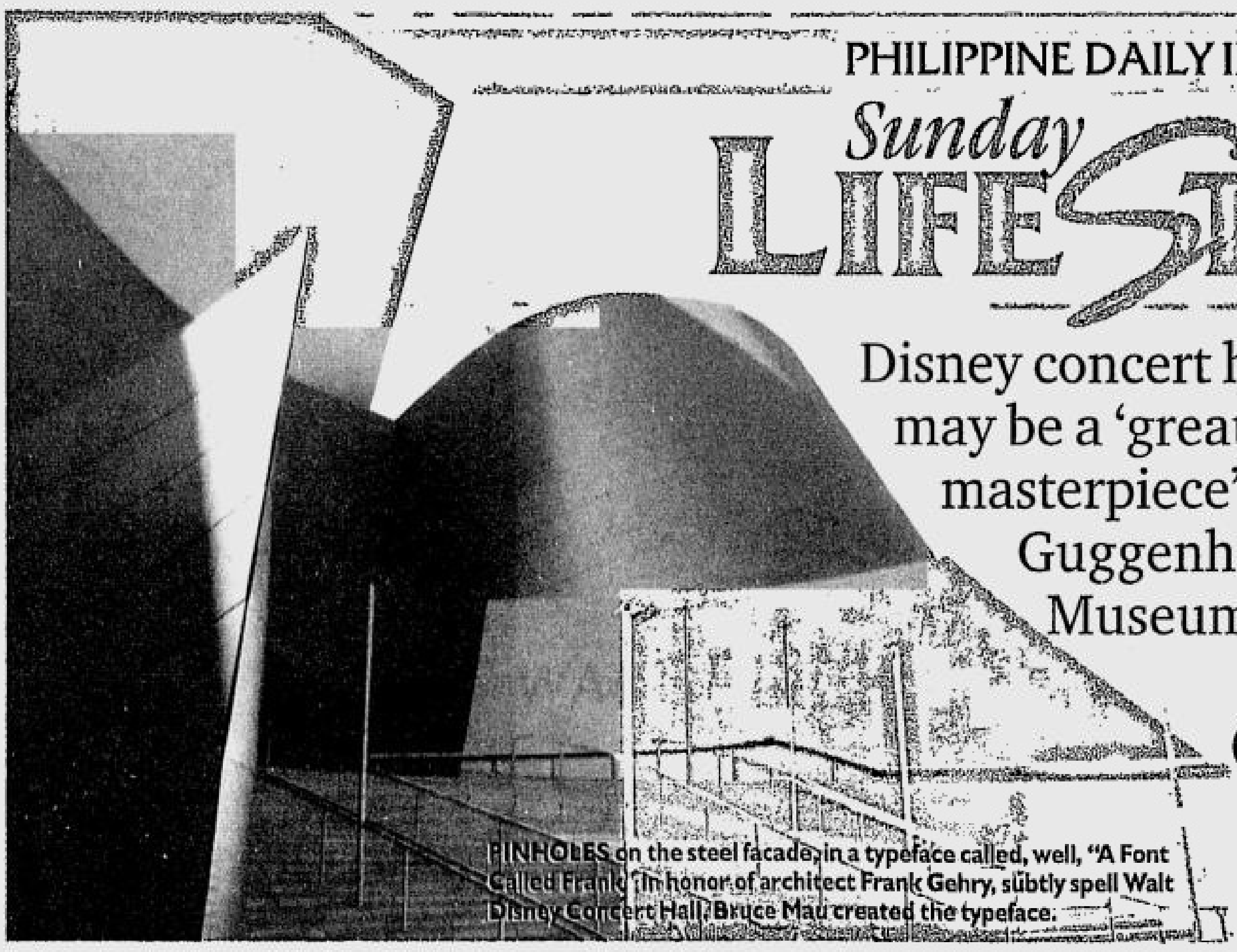
Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**



PINHOLES on the steel facade, in a typeface called, well, "A Font Called Frank" in honor of architect Frank Gehry, subtly spell Walt Disney Concert Hall. Bruce Mau created the typeface.

Disney concert hall may be a 'greater masterpiece' than Guggenheim Museum

Walt 'lives' here

Text and photos by Ruben V. Nepales
Contributor

LOS ANGELES—"Los Angeles after an earthquake" was how someone described the design for the Walt Disney Concert Hall when it was unveiled in the late '80s.

After 16 years, nobody says that anymore of Frank Gehry's stainless steel structure in downtown Los Angeles.

In August, before the master of pop architecture could finish what he called "a living room for the city," Newsweek's Cathleen McGuigan already described America's newest cultural landmark as "gorgeous," "stunning" and "fantastic."

INQUIRER Lifestyle, with Elizabeth Hinckley, director of public relations of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, toured the hall before its three-night opening gala this month. Only a few celebrities, including Zubin Mehta, Giorgio Armani, Manolo Blahnik and Steven Spielberg, saw the $274 million building before it formally opened.

Gehry actually designed the Disney Hall, the new home of the LA Phil, before the Guggenheim Museum (there is some resemblance). McGuigan anticipates the comparison: "If the building [Disney] does sound good as it looks—and early reports are enthusiastic—it will be a masterpiece, even greater than the spectacular Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, which made Gehry an international star in 1997."

20-year project

It took almost two decades to build the hall, initiated by a $50-million gift from Lillian Disney to honor her husband, Walt.

Her gift in 1987 came as a timely response to the orchestra's wish for a home with better acoustics than the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Gehry bested more respected architects (pre-Bilbao museum time) in an international design competition.

The response to his design was hardly encouraging that Gehry, the 1989 winner of the Pritzker Prize (the highest accolade in architecture), even considered leaving LA.

Los Angeles Times quoted him as saying, "I didn't like going out at night and having people confront me."

At one point, he was even in danger of losing his executive architect title. But Ms. Disney, who reportedly did not like the design, publicly stood by him.

Then the project's budget soared to $264 million. In a city stricken by riots, earthquake and a troubled economy, funding for Gehry's "living room" suffered.

Diane Disney Miller was told by the chief administrative officer of the LA County, which owned the land where the edifice would stand, "I'm so sorry, you won't be able to build this hall for your father."

An underground parking garage that would serve as the hall's foundation was the only thing completed.

Meanwhile, then LA Phil executive director Ernest Fleischmann, who dreamt of a new home for the orchestra, hired a tousle-haired Finnish composer and conductor as music director.

Esa-Pekka Salonen followed the likes of Andre Previn, Zubin Mehta and Otto Klemperer. He became LA Phil marketing's poster boy and, more importantly, the adventurous and increasingly renowned leader.

In 1996, during a month-long residency at the Theatre du Chatelet, Salonen and his 105-member orchestra wowed Paris, getting rave reviews from the European press. Several LA movers and shakers witnessed the performances.

The next year, Gehry's Guggenheim Museum opened to acclaim.

Project revived

These inspired LA's civic boosters like SunAmerica chair Eli Broad, then mayor Richard Riordan and Music Center chair Andrea van de Kamp, to launch a new fund-raising campaign. After her mother's death in 1997, Miller sustained the vision. The Walt Disney Company gave a $25 million challenge grant. Gifts from individuals and corporations came, making possible a second groundbreaking in 1999.

The result is a soaring creation in steel, a grand metallic ship of stainless bows and masts that seems to be sailing at the corner of First and Grand Avenues. Viewed from the intersection, the best vantage point, the Disney Hall seems to come alive. That Gehry considers himself as

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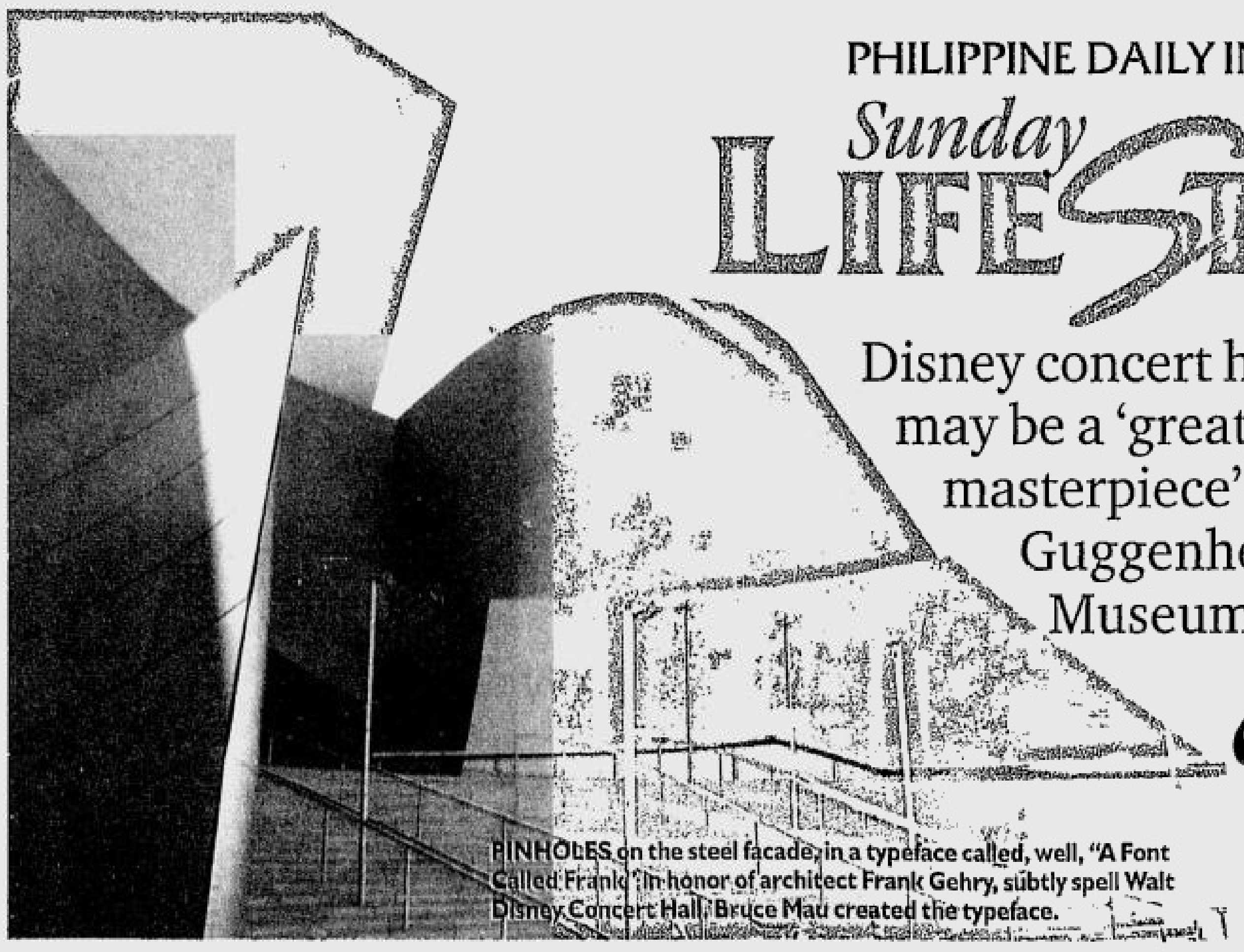
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At one point, he was even in danger of losing his executive architect title. But Ms. Disney, who reportedly did not like the design, publicly stood by him.

Then the project's budget soared to $264 million. In a city stricken by riots, earthquake and a troubled economy, funding for Gehry's "living room" suffered.

Diane Disney Miller was told by the chief administrative officer of the LA County, which owned the land where the edifice would stand, "I'm so sorry, you won't be able to build this hall for your father."

An underground parking garage that would serve as the hall's foundation was the only thing completed.

Meanwhile, then LA Phil executive director Ernest Fleischmann, who dreamt of a new home for the orchestra, hired a tousle-haired Finnish composer and conductor as music director.

Esa-Pekka Salonen followed the likes of Andre Previn, Zubin Mehta and Otto Klemperer. He became LA Phil marketing's poster boy and, more importantly, the adventurous and increasingly renowned leader.

In 1996, during a month-long residency at the Theatre du Chatelet, Salonen and his 105-member orchestra wowed Paris, getting rave reviews from the European press. Several LA movers and shakers witnessed the performances.

The next year, Gehry's Guggenheim Museum opened to acclaim.

Project revived

These inspired LA's civic boosters like SunAmerica chair Eli Broad, then mayor Richard Riordan and Music Center chair Andrea van de Kamp, to launch a new fund-raising campaign. After her mother's death in 1997, Miller sustained the vision. The Walt Disney Company gave a $25 million challenge grant. Gifts from individuals and corporations came, making possible a second groundbreaking in 1999.

The result is a soaring creation in steel, a grand metallic ship of stainless bows and masts that seems to be sailing at the corner of First and Grand Avenues. Viewed from the intersection, the best vantage point, the Disney Hall seems to come alive. That Gehry considers himself as

WALT/ D2

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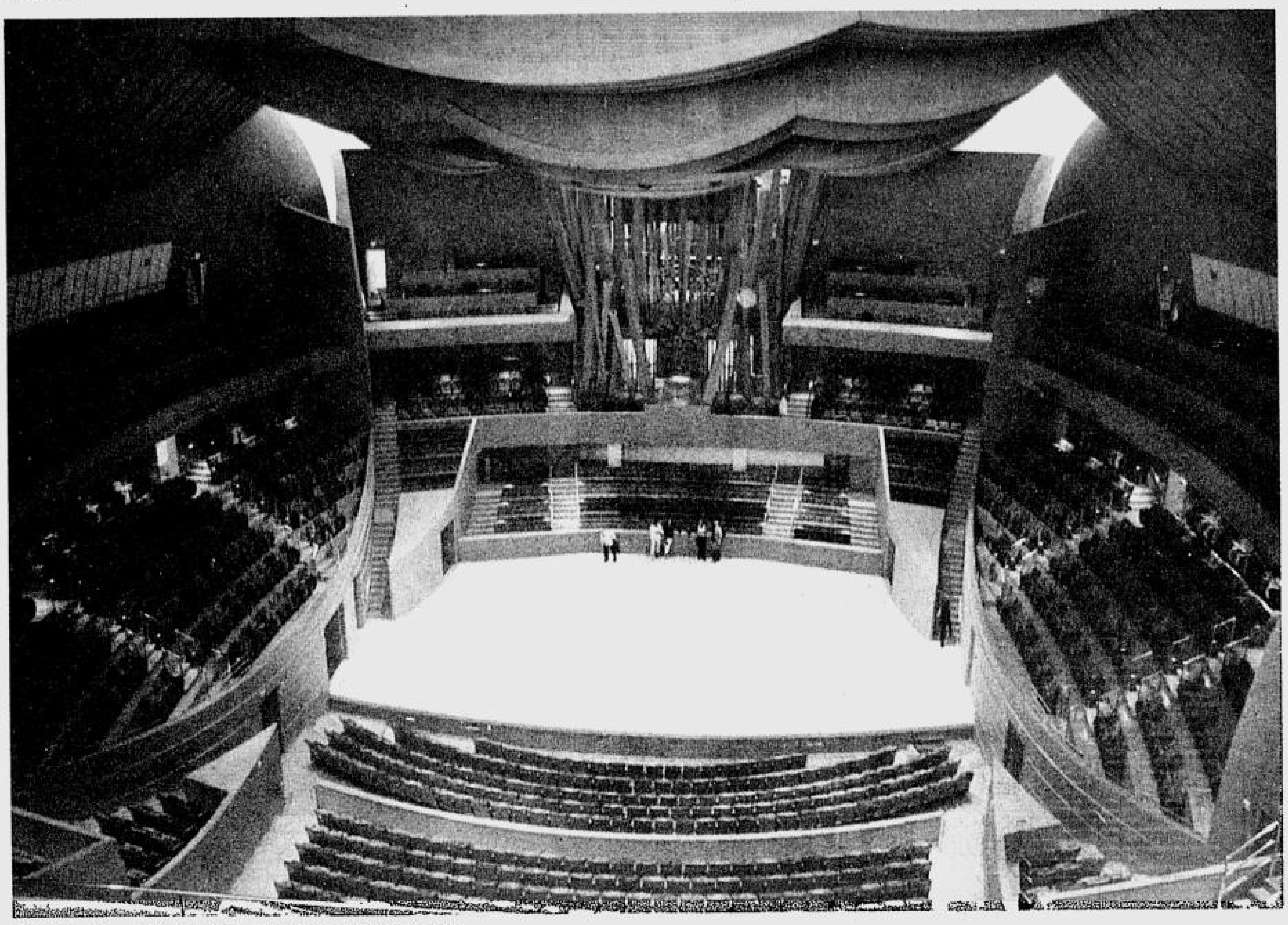
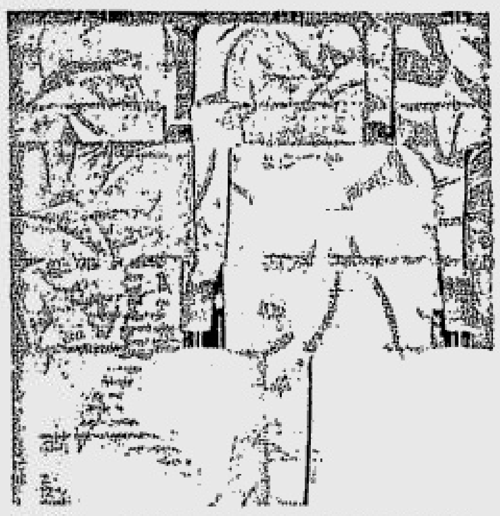


A VIEW of the auditorium's stunning interiors from the top

LA finally has an architectural landmark as memorable as Paris' Eiffel Tower and Sydney's Opera House.



THIS is not your boring traditional concert hall. Leaf-like patterns in red, green, blue and brown on the seat cushions and carpets suggest an un-stuffy concert hall.

Anatomy of a Barrio Fiesta See page E2-3

Walt 'lives' here

From page D1

much a sculptor as an architect is evident in the curves and angles.

The location allows the building to breathe, to soar, the metallic swoops seeming to wave gracefully at its neighbors.

Inside, the sailing motif (Gehry enjoys sailing) continues, but in warm Douglas fir wood. The stage is the heart of the 2,265-seat auditorium. The billowing effect is carried this time on the curved wood ceiling.

Gehry, working with renowned acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota, did away with the traditional shoebox design of concert halls and opted for a "vineyard" form. The result is an intimate space with the audience gathering around the stage.

Part of the experience

"Mr. Gehry and Mr. Fleischmann wanted this to be an egalitarian or democratic space," said Hinckley. "Mr. Fleischmann wanted the seats to be closer in price range but also make everybody feel that they are part of the experience. They wanted people to be able to watch other people's expressions as though they were part of the setting instead of sitting in boxes and watching what's going onstage and not feeling a part of it."

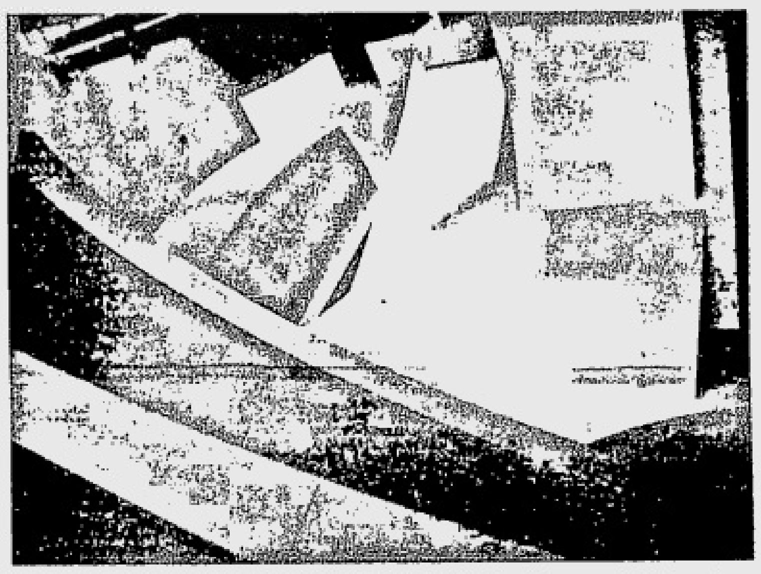
She added, "I've also heard Mr. Gehry talk about how he wanted the stage to be as close to the audience as possible because the performers actually work better when they feel like they're closer to the audience they're performing for."

At the back of the stage is a $3-million organ (shape designed by Gehry, sound by Manuel Rosales, and made in Germany) whose jutting wood pipes had been compared to French fries or giant pickup game sticks.

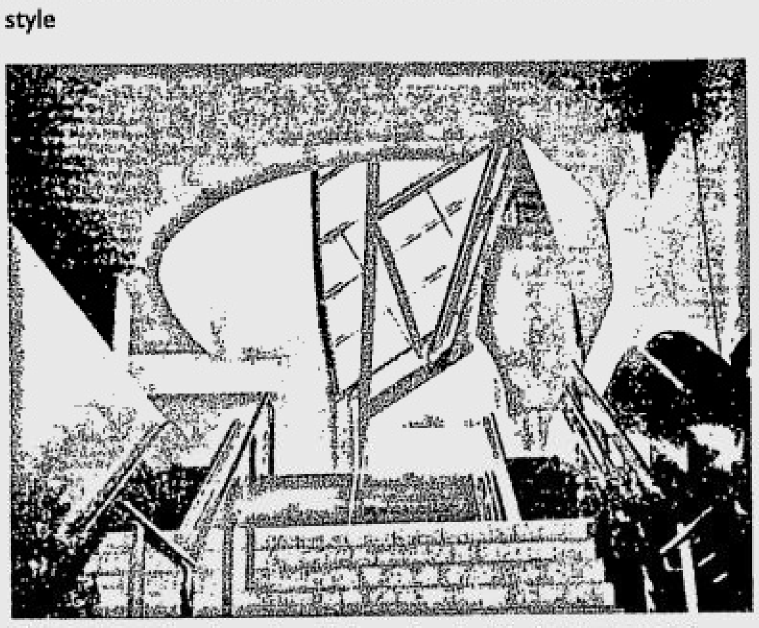
Up close, the seats reveal leaf-like patterns in red, green, blue and brown that were echoed on the carpet.

Hinkley said this was an homage to Ms. Disney, who had a great love for horticulture. In the lobby, steel columns were clad in Douglas fir to

WALT/ D3



A GEHRY trademark: wood and white walls rendered in sculptural style



EXPOSED. Gehry intentionally bared part of the intricate metal framework supporting the steel walls.

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Walt 'lives' here

From page D2

simulate trees.

Wherever possible, natural light bathed the place through skylights.

In the main auditorium, a 36-foot-high rear window, which Gehry called the "kimono window" according to Hinckley, and skylights bolstered the unconventional look of the Hall. Hinckley said Gehry wanted the light to come in.

"One of his overall concepts is the inside-out, outside-in idea, making you feel like nature is coming in but you're also part of what's going on outside," she said.

Glass panels enhanced the feeling of accessibility in the other areas: an atrium reception hall, a hall for lectures and banquets, a green room meant to encourage interaction among musicians, guests and audience, and the still unfinished Founders Room.

Public access

The restaurant will be operated by LA's renowned chef Joaquim Splichal. A street level café, also to be run by Splichal, will be open to the public from breakfast to dinner.

Two outdoor amphitheaters, a 300-seater for children programming and a 120-seater, is also accessible to the general public.

Hinckley added, "The garage will be run by the [Los Angeles] County. Everyone from county workers to people on jury duty or people coming for the concerts and the garden will be able to park here. We want people to be able to walk up. It's back to the 'inside out, outside in' concept..."

Hinckley said Gehry wanted the hall to be street level to show that art didn't have to be in a place where people had to walk up, like the Lincoln Center or the Music Center.

"He wants this place to be—I've heard him use this before—a living room for the city, a place where, and Mrs. Disney wanted this as well, people of Los Angeles come together. I think that they'll feel that even more so in the garden," she said.

The garden is a refreshing contrast to the steel and glass.

"One thing that Mrs. Disney asked is that there would be a garden on the site for downtown Los Angeles," said Hinckley.

Gehry, playing with the concept, wanted the place to be like a garden in full bloom.

The six varieties of trees in the garden all came from LA people's yards, homes and businesses.

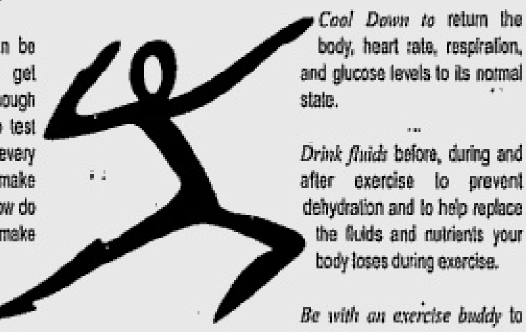
A fountain designed by Gehry which is in the finishing stages, is a mosaic in the form of a huge rose (Ms Disney's favorite flower), made painstakingly from pieces of Delft royal blue China.

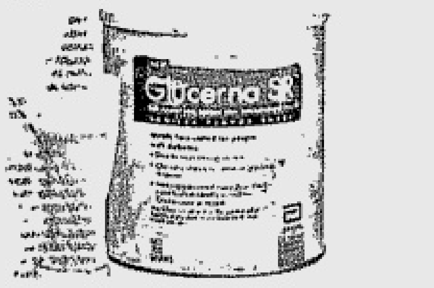
"It is a gift by the children of the [Disney] family in honor of their grandmother," Hinckley said, adding it, would be the first piece of public art in at the hall. "We won't be having any other public art at least for a year or so because we want the building to be the art."

Hinckley showed a spot where the elaborate metal framework in which the gleaming façade hung was partially exposed. She explained that Gehry liked to show the meat of the building, the structural steel and how it was created.

PHOTOGENIC. Gehry's striking steel walls bask in California's perpetual sunshine.

E-mail the author at rnepales57@aol.com.





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Taking it One Step at a Time

Now, that you have psyched yourself to give up the couch and to make time for exercise, you need to take this change one step at a time to increase your chances of succeeding.

See your doctor before you begin - Have a thorough medical examination. The results will help you and your doctor choose the kind of exercise you can do based on your specific health condition, diabetes treatment plan and fitness level.

Set your Goals – Goals should be realistic, measurable, specific. It is good to set both short and long term goals. Breaking it down that way makes matters less overwhelming.

Draw up an Exercise Plan – again with the help of your doctor, you can discuss extensively what type of exercise that is good for you, how often and the times you need to test your blood glucose level, among others. Dr. Teresa Plata Que, Vice President of the Philippine Diabetes Association, explains that " a diabetic should exercise for a minimum of 30 minutes per session, 3 times a week. Aerobic exercise such as brisk walking, swimming, cycling, jogging, is highly recommended ". Dr. Que also says that 10-16 weeks of exercise can produce weight loss of 0.6 kg in women and 1.3 kg in men*

Exercising Right

It took a lot of willpower to get you started. Be sure to exercise properly and reap its benefits, not run risks.

Reduce Risk of Hypoglycemia Ask your doctor what your blood glucose levels should be before and after a physical activity. Rest if you find yours too low.

Warm Up to prepare your body for exercise and prevent injuries by stretching and flexing muscles.

Cool Down to return the body, heart rate, respiration, and glucose levels to its normal state.

Drink fluids before, during and after exercise to prevent dehydration and to help replace the fluids and nutrients your body loses during exercise.

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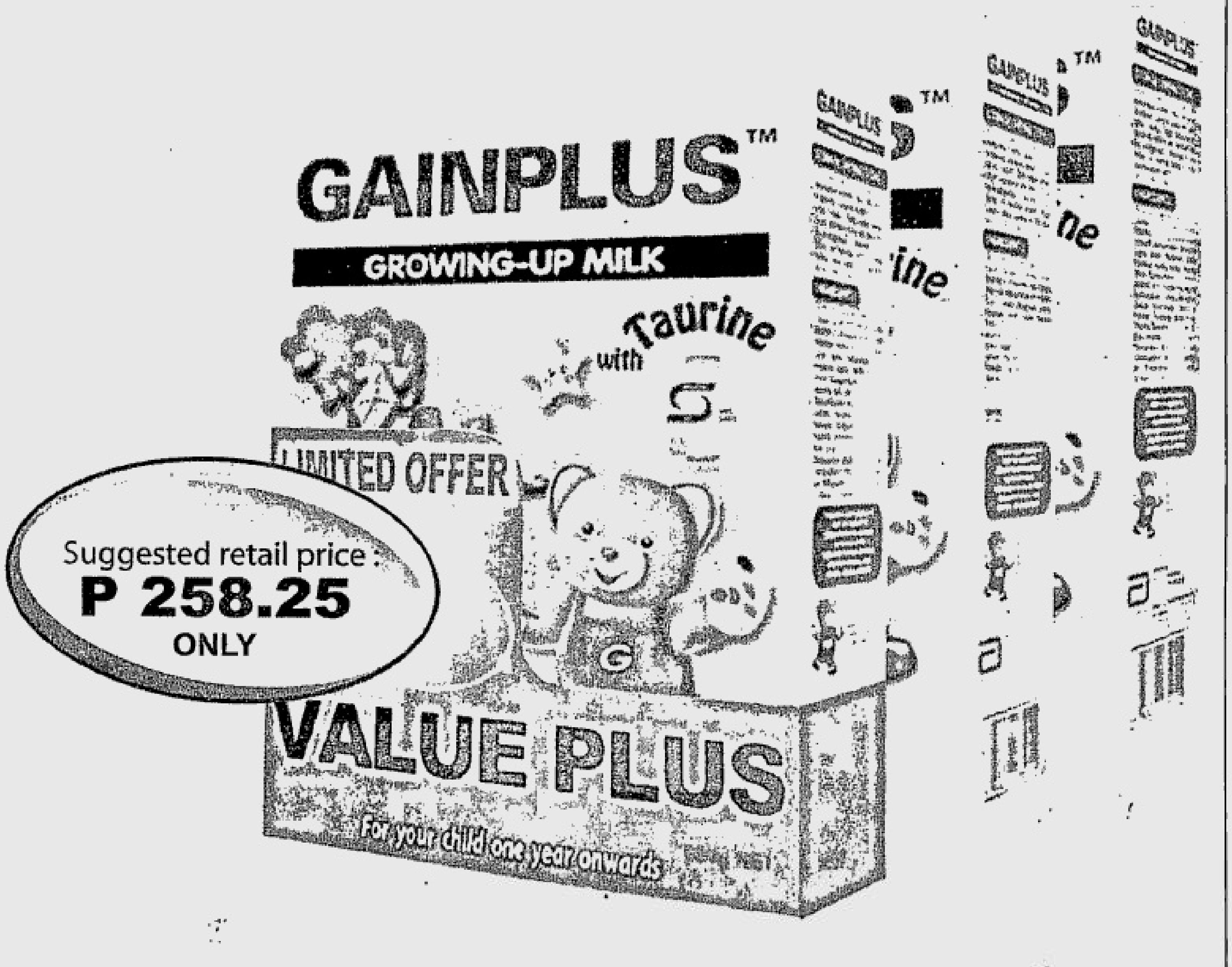

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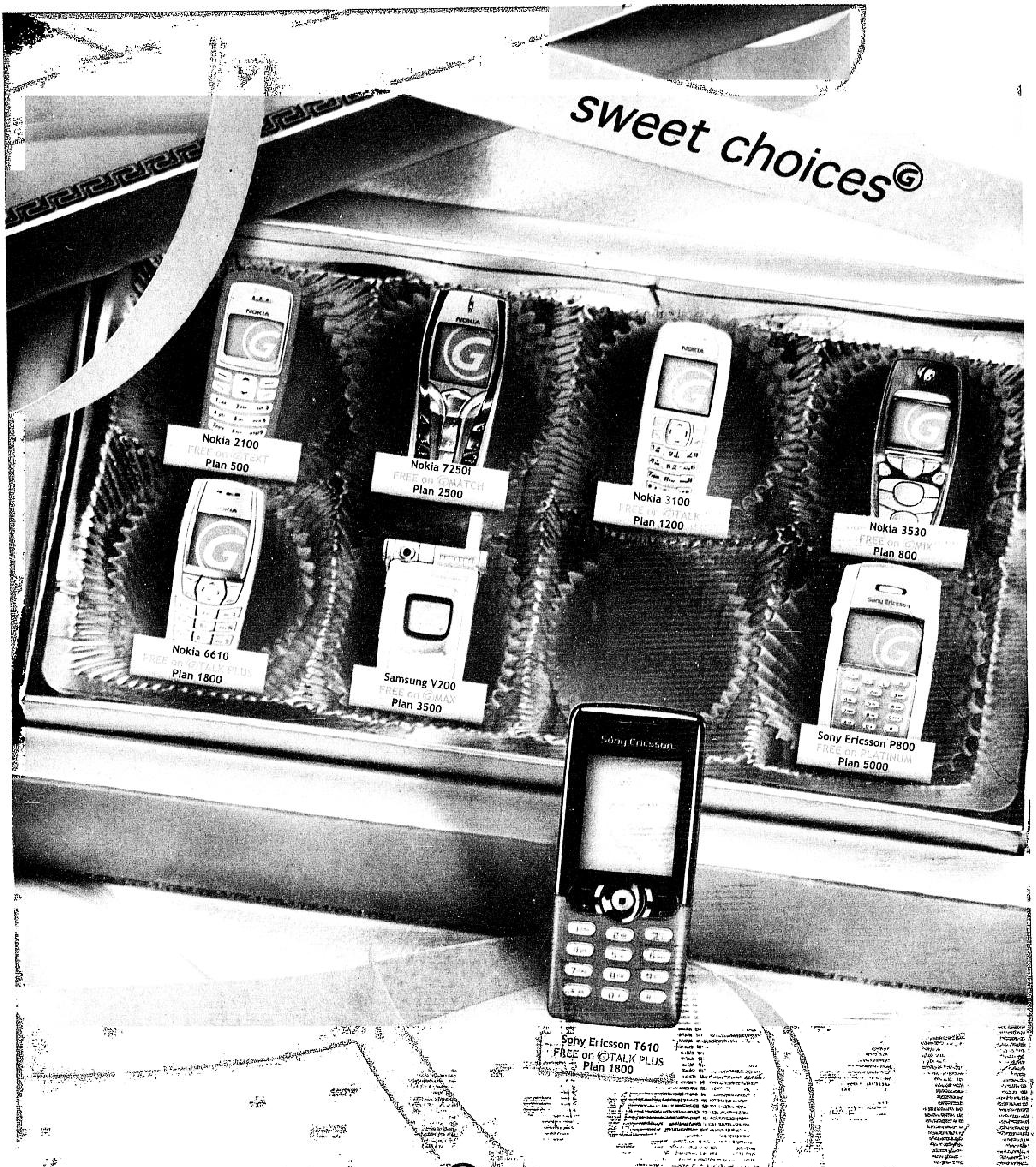
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Sunday LifeStyle

'Dubya' throws a challenge to Pinoys

Walking-tall George W. Bush calls on Filipinos to stand tall as a people

By Dennis Valdes

"YOU Filipinos have so much to be proud of in your beloved country," was the line in George W. Bush's Batasan speech that stayed with me.

Not his references to Dwight D. Eisenhower, the only other United States President to address a joint session of our Congress. Not his promises to modernize our military in continuing the war against terror. But, rather, his admonition to all of us to stand tall as a people.

I had the good fortune to watch George W. Bush deliver his speech at the Batasan last Oct. 18. It's incredible how some dates stick out, destined to become answers to history exams. Oct. 18 has that potential.

This was an opportunity to see up close the leader of the world's largest democracy, the country that gave us this political system that we are still trying to get a handle on. The question is, did the brief visit, eight hours and 10 minutes, teach us anything about democracy?

Day of pomp and pageantry

Perhaps we can learn from assorted tidbits noticed throughout this "Day in the Life of Potus" (Potus is Secret Service shorthand for President of the United States). From the time the twin 747s—a pair of sky-blue and white birds emblazoned with the American Eagle Potus Seal—landed at the Naia, Filipinos knew they were going to witness a day of pomp and pageantry like they'd never seen before.

If the US President had two planes, then he should have two limos as well, and there they were—two bulletproof Lincoln Continentals, flown in earlier by C-130 Hercules helicopters.

After the requisite arrival ceremonies, "Dubya" was off to the Rizal Shrine at the Luneta, where he laid a wreath quicker than it took to type this paragraph.

Then he was off to a "Meet and Greet" event at the US embassy. Secret Service had informed the personnel there would be an embassy "lockdown" at exactly noon.

An American friend, whose family was already in the embassy, arrived at the gate at 12:05 p.m. after assisting with the Naia passport clearances for the Bush media entourage. Although the gate guards knew him, he was politely turned away. Now, that's no-nonsense security!

After that brief stop at Ambassador Francis Ricciardone's office, the American President was off to Malacañang to lunch. Around that time, many of our congressmen and senators, as well as the media and other invitees, were heading to the Batasan for the joint session.

The invitation from Speaker Joe de Venecia and Sen. Frank Drilon specified that the doors of the Batasan would be closed at 2:30 p.m. I arrived at 1 p.m., one of the first to enter the enormous three-story-high hall of the Batasan.

Simple and functional

First-timers to the Batasan will be impressed by its simple and functional architecture. On the two-level dais sit the speaker of the House and, below him, the sergeant-at-arms and other Batasan officers. The dais itself is clean-cut marble and wood, with none of the Paete-style carvings one would imagine. Behind the dais is a very large and imposing Philippine flag, particularly stark due to the absence of any decorative item throughout the hall.

In the center are rows of plain wooden desks and unremarkable aqua "executive" chairs. The usherettes informed me the seats were arranged by regions in chronological order, allowing politicians to sit beside colleagues who might be from opposing political parties. This may be part of the reason why our politicians switch parties as easily as they change from *barong tagalog* to business suit.

Bush did not arrive until 4:35 p.m., so there was plenty of time to become familiar with the Batasan's pecking order. When Congress and the Senate hold a joint session, a row of desks are added in front for the senators.

For the Oct. 18 session, Speaker De Venecia also invited former senators and congressmen, who were all clearly thrilled to be there and to mingle with other politicos.

Loren Legarda stood out in a pink sequined *terno*, as did Imee Marcos in a blue gown with a red sash across the middle, almost a tribute to the US flag. Bel Cunanan, beside me, quipped that the missing stars could be found in the twinkling of her eyes.

Also notable was Gina de Venecia in an iridescent blue *terno*, matching the blue eyes of President Bush.

Notable exception

Most of the men were in *barong*, with the notable exception of Ping Lacson, who was nowhere in sight. There were surprisingly few Secret Service men in sight.

Along the sides of the hall were giant television screens. As the motorcade arrived, the limousines were shown amid an ocean of flashing lights. The hall hummed with anticipation.

Bush was met with a handshake by Speaker De Venecia at the Batasan foyer. The President

'DUBYA'/ E3

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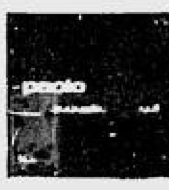
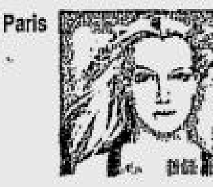

Moonlight Over Paris
Paolo Santos
Acoustic Night Out
RINGTONE: N7
POLYTONE: T7
WALLPAPER: C4
LYRICS: LY7


Me Against The Music
Britney Spears feat. Madonna
In the Zone
RINGTONE: N8
POLYTONE: T8
WALLPAPER: C5
LYRICS: LY8

Like Glue
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Dutty Rock
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POLYTONE: T9
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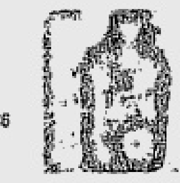
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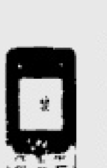
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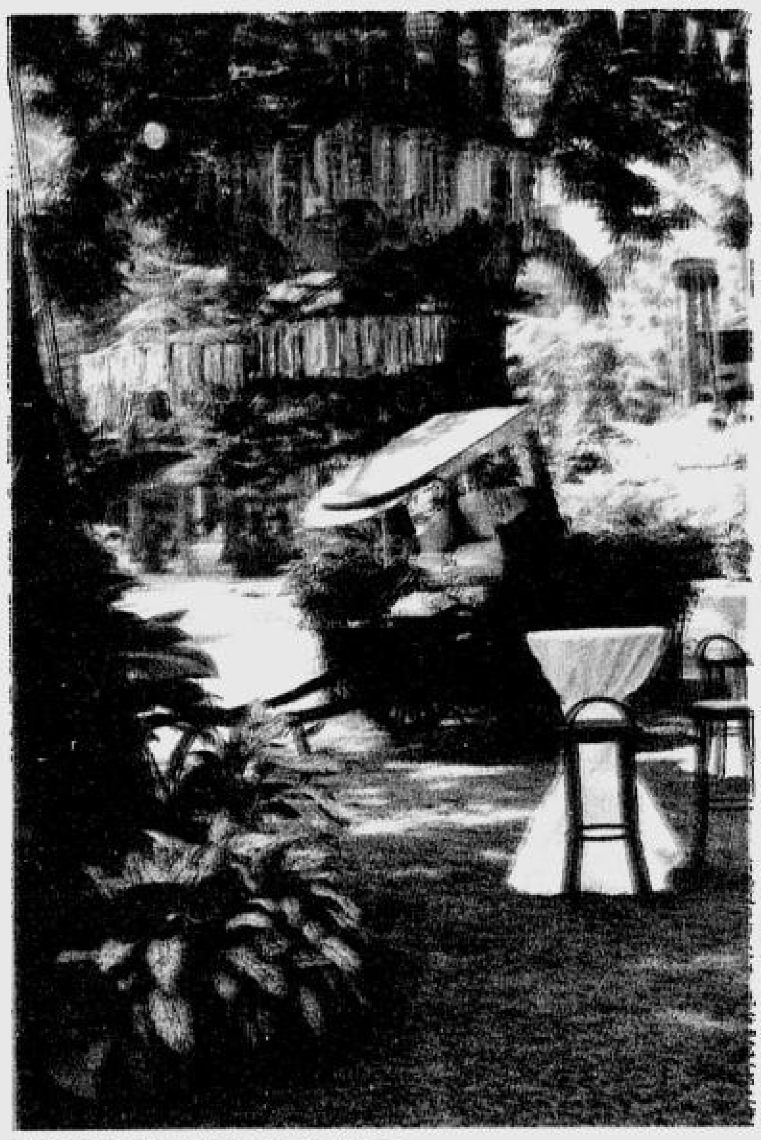
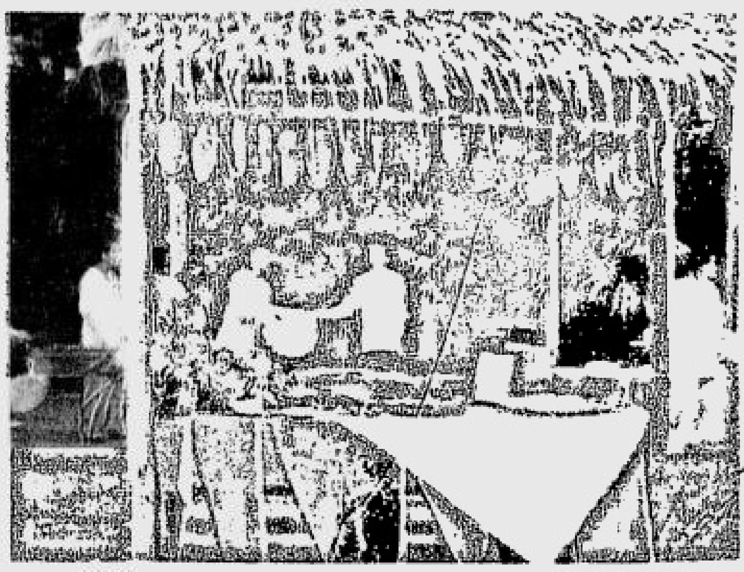


THE NO-PLASTIC *pabitins* by Mabolo

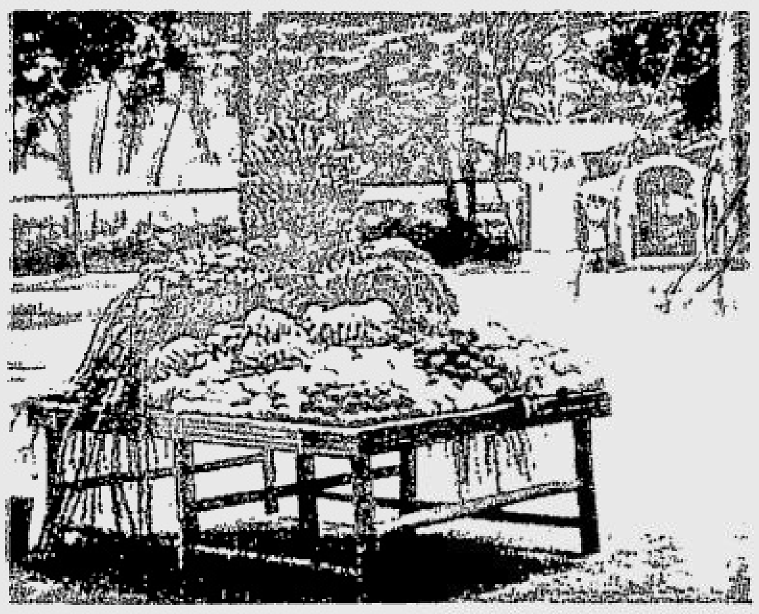
FILIPINIANA spread



KUBO with *kiping*

Flowery fiesta welcome for Bush

BUFFET set-up



FRUIT installation. In background is the fountain restored to its original granolithic beauty.

THE STATE dinner for US President George W. Bush combined the flair of a typical Filipino fiesta without sacrificing the classy but simple elegance befitting a head of state. The effect was achieved with economy, not anywhere near the grandiose estimates by detractors, some of them coming from the age of Her Imeldific.

Malacañang's directives to Cibo's Margarita Fores, who coordinated the food ensemble, and Mabolo's Antonio Garcia, who handles the floral side, for the Malacañang "fiesta" was to highlight the Filipino, using products and materials that were representative of all regions in the Philippines—from the *kiping* of Quezon to the sugarcane and *puto manapla* of Negros, the mangosteen, bananas and pineapples of Davao, and the coconut of Batangas.

The gamut of food required the cooperation of several restaurants and food suppliers.

For instance, the Inasal (Visayan roasting) of chicken, pork *tocino* and *pusit* were by Ramon Nozan of Manokan sa Gapo in Subic Bay, Olongapo.

The *lechon* stuffed with tamarind leaves was roasted on the spot by Nen Belsa's Lechon and was served with the usual liver sauce and Asian mustard fruit sauce made of guava, *santol* and *kalamansi* shells spiked with local rhum by Cibo.

The special *bibingka* and *puto bungbong* were by Mama Lucy of Lucy Villegas. The *sorbetes* (native ice cream) was by Juanito Maranan of Project 2, QC. Flavors of the night were *mangga, keso* and *tsokolate*, which were all a hit with the US Secret Service.

The *polvoron* was by Tia Osmeña Valencia, granddaughter of President Sergio Osmeña, and the *ube puto* was by Michelle Concepcion, daughter of former trade secretary Joe Concepcion.

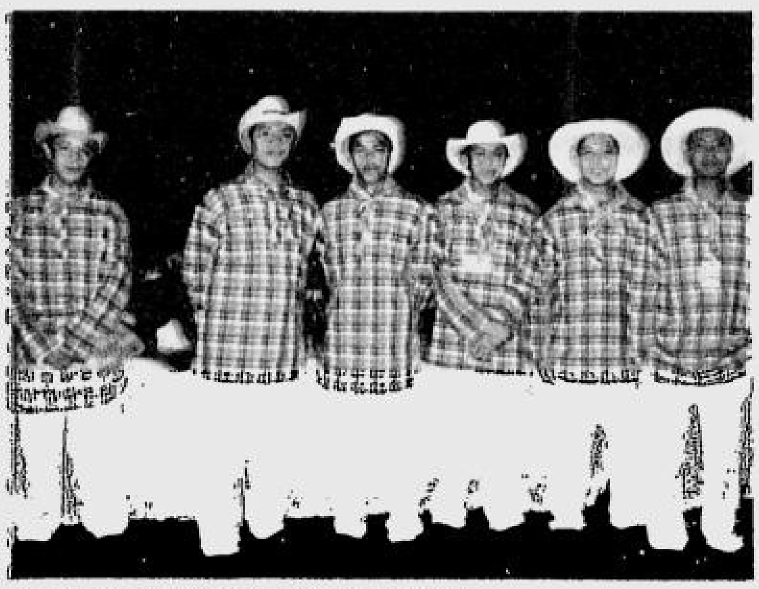
MORE pabitin, banderitas and flowers

The US President imbibed the flavors of the islands in just eight short hours

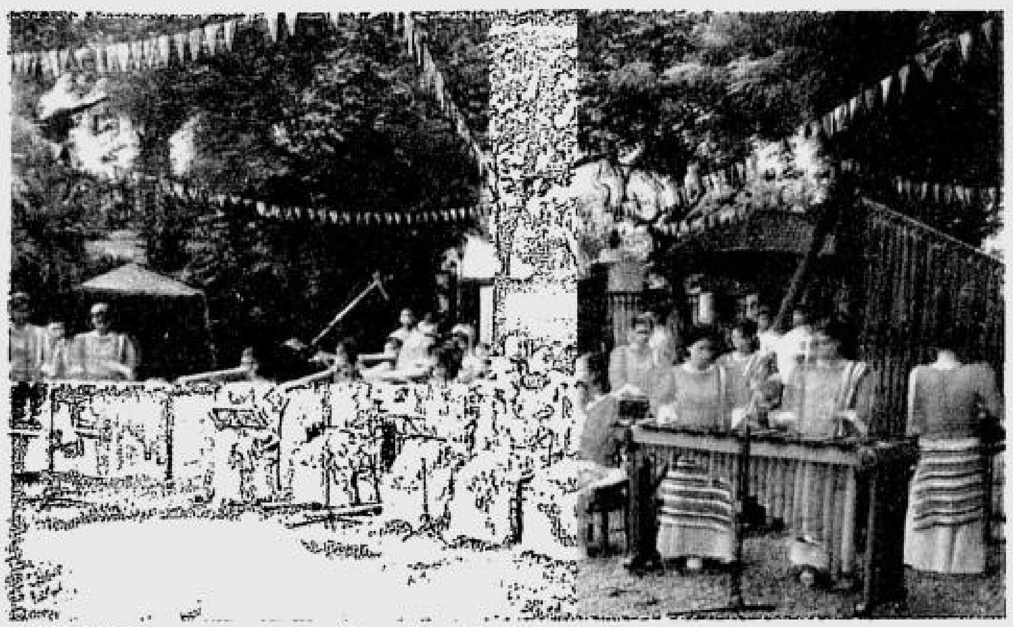
FILIPINIANA wear for buffet girls serving native *kakanin* or treats

THE ***BIBINGKA*** *at puto bumbong* corner of Mama Lucy

SIMPLE table arrangement



WAITERS in plaid shirts, kerchiefs and hats



PANGKAT Kawayan serves up the musical fare

THE ***TSOKOLATE***, *ensaymada* and *puto manapla* station

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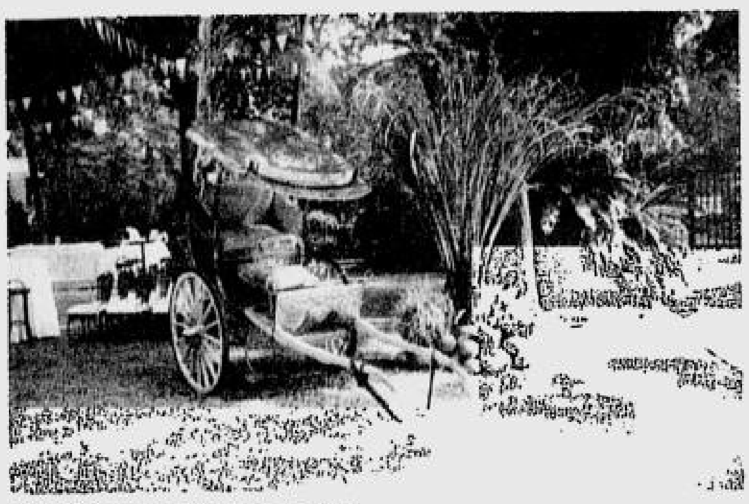
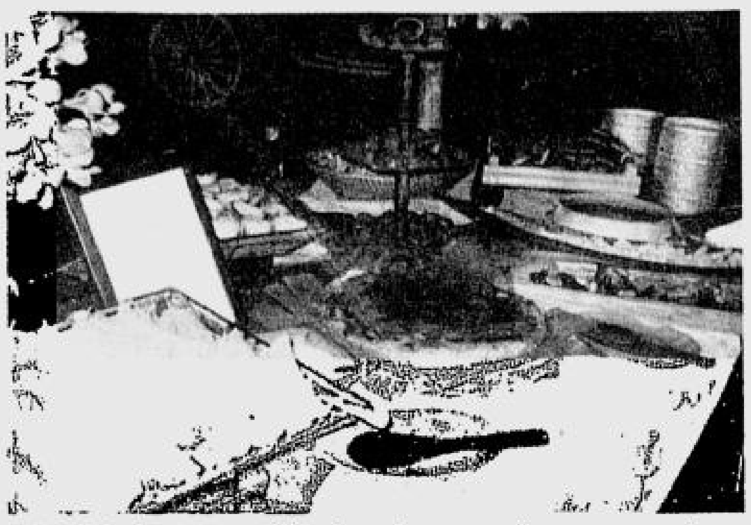
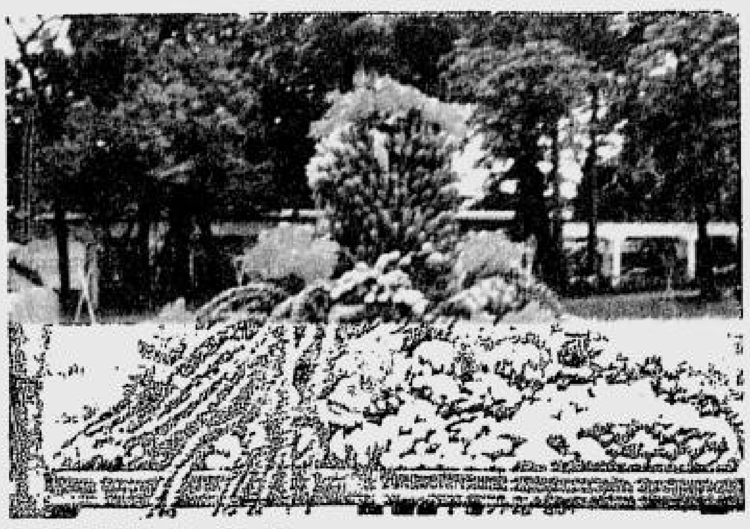
LECHON ready for the feasting



KALESA and sugarcane backdrop



KAKANIN galore: *suman, bibingka, polvoron, pastillas, puto manapla* and *ube puto*



A BANQUET of fresh fruits

The special *ensaymada* was by the Blue Kitchen of Malou Fores and by Mary Grace of Mary Grace Dimascali.

The dining set-up combined native *bilaos* lined with banana leaf and gold rim China for plates. There were also coco shell forks and spoons with silverplated cocktail forks.

The serving platters were a combination of wooden bowls and trays, *nito* baskets, wood and bamboo boxes and silver-tiered tea trays and large heirloom silver-footed trays.

The *papag* tables were lined with banana leaves and elegant cotton printed cloths.

The *kiping* chandeliers added color to the *bahay-kubo* roofs. The scent of the *sampaguita* garlands mixed with the aroma of the *inasal* being grilled.

Rustic decor

The layout of the dining hall closely approximated a rustic Philippine setting a la Amorsolo.

Garcia put *pawid* roofs on bamboo legs for the *bahay kubo*. He also transformed the traditional bamboo *papag*, otherwise used for sleeping, into dining tables.

And what's a fiesta without the *pabitin*? The Malacañang dinner had one where hung fresh vegetables, fruits and *buri* (little wooden knickknacks such as *trumpo*, hats, *buri* mini bags, fans, maracas and other local curios).

Authentic *kalesas* were scattered on the Palace grounds. *Palayok* (native pottery) was hung everywhere. The sugarcane installation was crowned at the base with coconut. The fruit installation was a cornucopia of the best produce from Davao with blankets on the floor, for peelings just in case the guests decided to enjoy the fruits.

The flowers were also a showcase of the country's floral riches—with a mix of orchids, ginger torches and *sampaguita* garlands plus growths from the coconut tree—quite rococo and florid for the visit of a man named Bush.

HALO-HALO girl with ice in wood and copper-carved cooler

'Dubya' throws a challenge to Pinoys

From page E1

clasped De Venecia's hand and threw a Texan arm around the speaker's shoulders as they posed for the cameras like two best friends. Joe de V could not help but break into a 150-watt grin. Inside the hall, everyone erupted into good-natured laughter.

The speaker had completed his coup—getting the leader of the Free World to leave the Executive House and visit his House, the seat of legislative power. He had every right to be pleased and show it.

Inside, the presidential party sat in special burgundy seats to the right of the stage. Although about 30 seats were reserved, there were surprisingly few in Bush's entourage.

There did not seem to be a single congressman or senator with him. There did not seem to be any business cronies or crony-wannabes, and certainly none got within pictorial range.

Without much fanfare, the joint session started with the national anthem followed by a silent prayer. There was only one item on the agenda and, after a simple introduction, Bush strode to the podium.

Hospitable Pinoys

The speech was good but not great. Cory Aquino's speech to the US Congress was probably better written. But we Filipinos are known for our hospitality, so Bush's speech was interrupted by applause 20 times in the 18 minutes he took to read it.

I suppose no account of the speech would be complete without mentioning the walkout. To me, it deserves mention as it proves that our democracy is a fully functioning one.

To me, democracy is like a circus. And a circus, with a ringmaster in the middle taming the lions, would not be complete without the clowns on the sidelines to amuse us all.

Of course, let's also not forget that, no matter how well-run a circus is, as in the case of Siegfried and the unfortunate Roy, every now and then the tigers can still decide they want to bite the head off the ringmaster.

Bush was very statesmanlike. He spoke in a voice just barely above a speaking tone, nowhere near the fiesta-announcer levels of our politicians' oratory.

It seems the neckties of US presidents never stray beyond the basic colors of red and blue. The last presidential suit I recall that that was not blue, black or gray was the brown, checkered suit worn by Ronald Reagan.

True to form, George W. Bush was in as traditional a suit as might be imagined. A nice touch was the addition of an American flag on his lapel, and I predict local politicos would soon be sporting Philippine flag pins on their *barong*.

The themes of the speech were nothing new—"shared struggle," "common vision" and references to mutual cooperation our countries could look forward to in the future. Yet the fact that the themes, among many possibilities, were chosen by Bush would resonate long and hard.

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As quickly as he arrived, he was off to the state dinner for 350 guests.

For the rest of the nation, it was back to the TV screens, watching the final moments of the historic visit and pondering how we could get our national pride back so we could truly "stand together" with the US, perhaps finally on an equal footing like we always longed for.

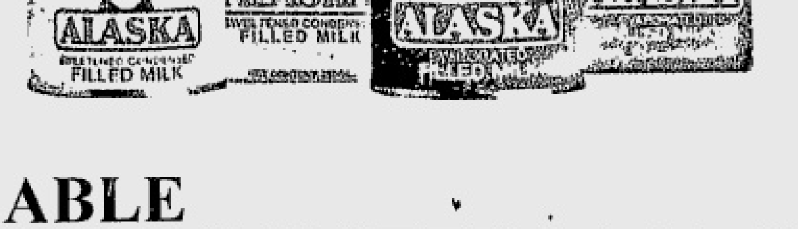
E-mail the author at dvaldes@lexmediadigital.ph.

ALASKA
ALASKA MILK CORPORATION

"Itataya ko ba ang pangalan ko?"

Pagkaing hinahain mo, dala ang pangalan mo.
At pagmamahal.
Itataya mo ba naman ang sustansya't sarap?
Sa Alaska, sigurado ka.
Sa pangalan pa lang.

Wala pa rin tatalo sa Alaska.



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LECHON ready for the feasting

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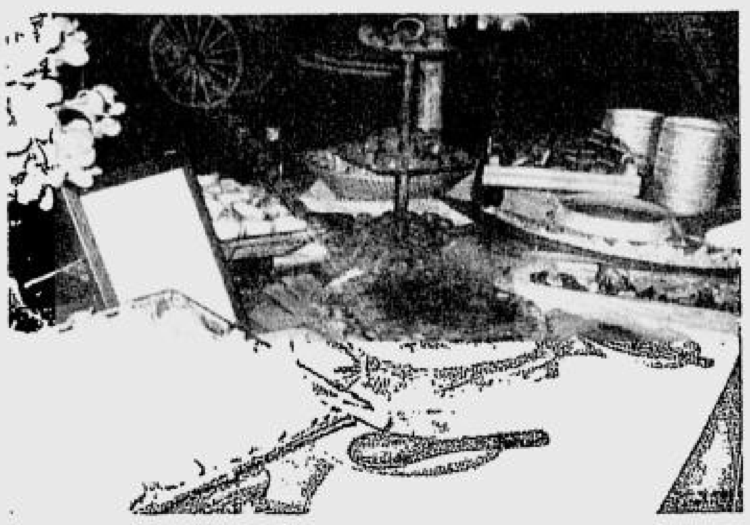

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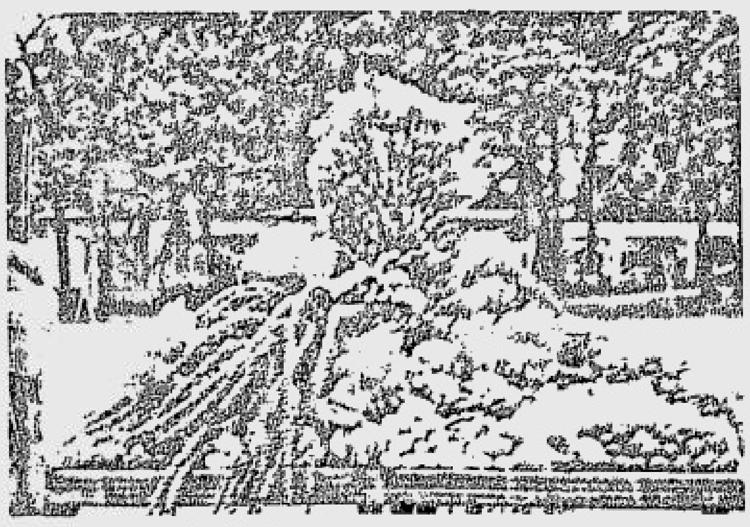

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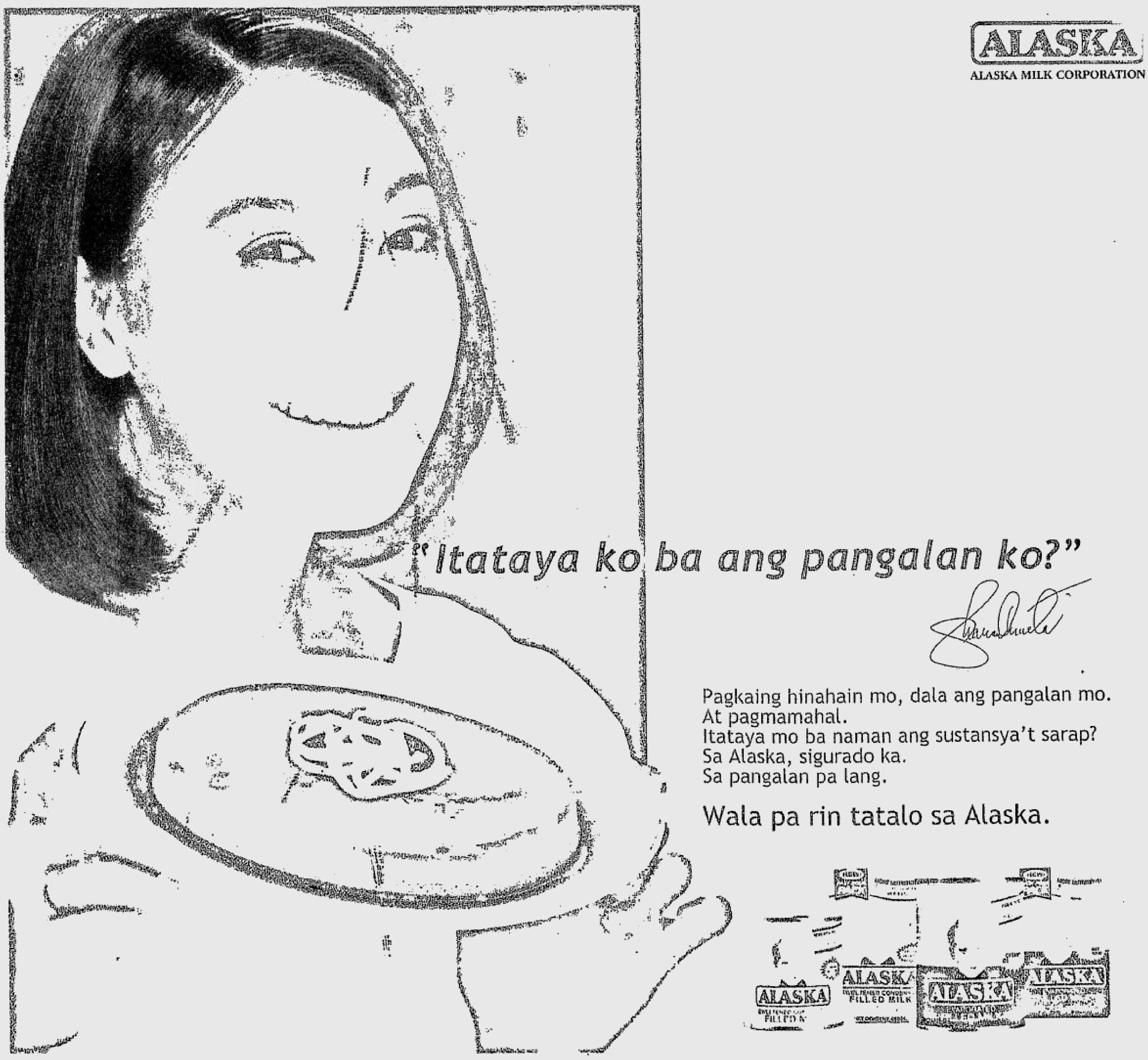

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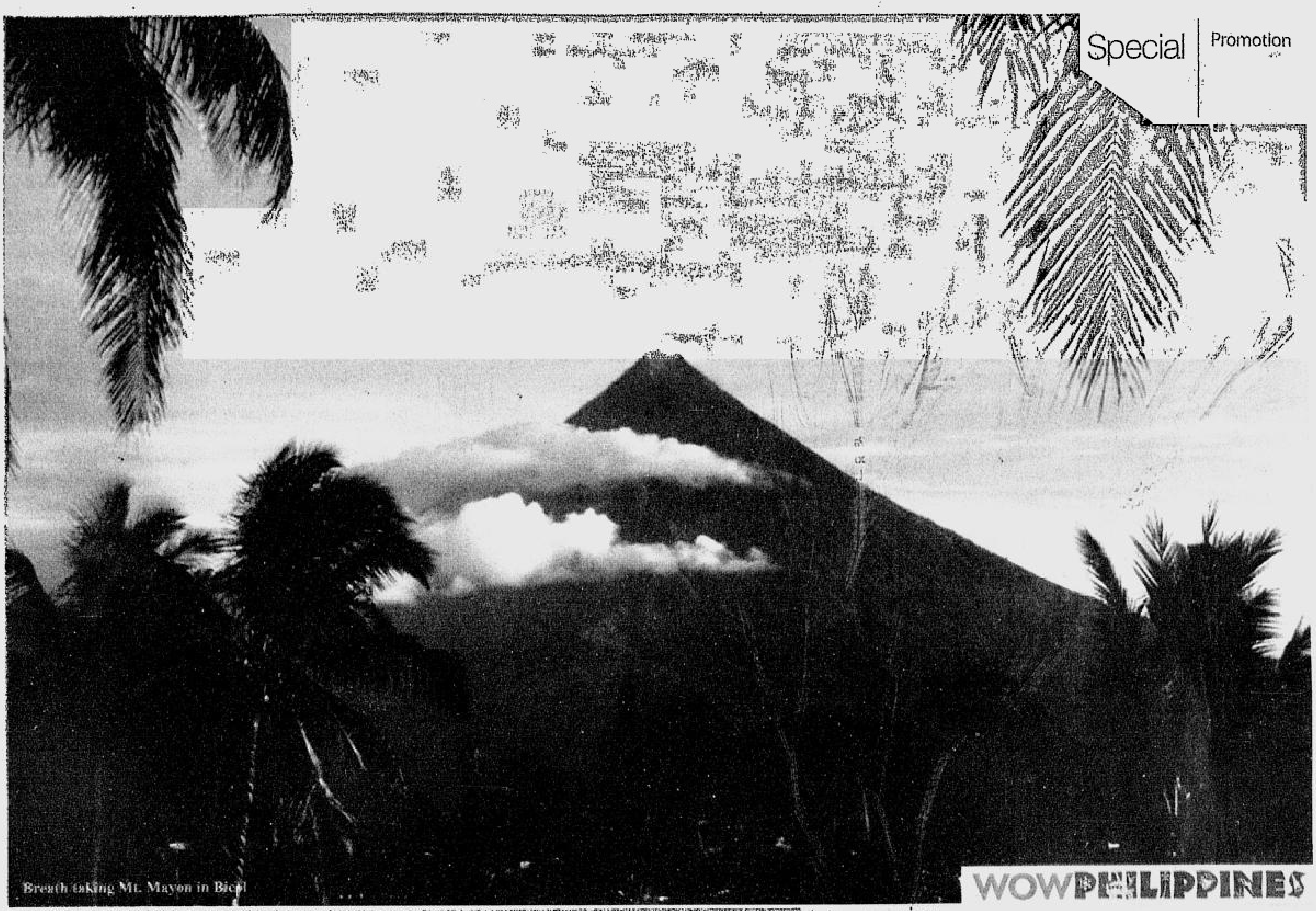
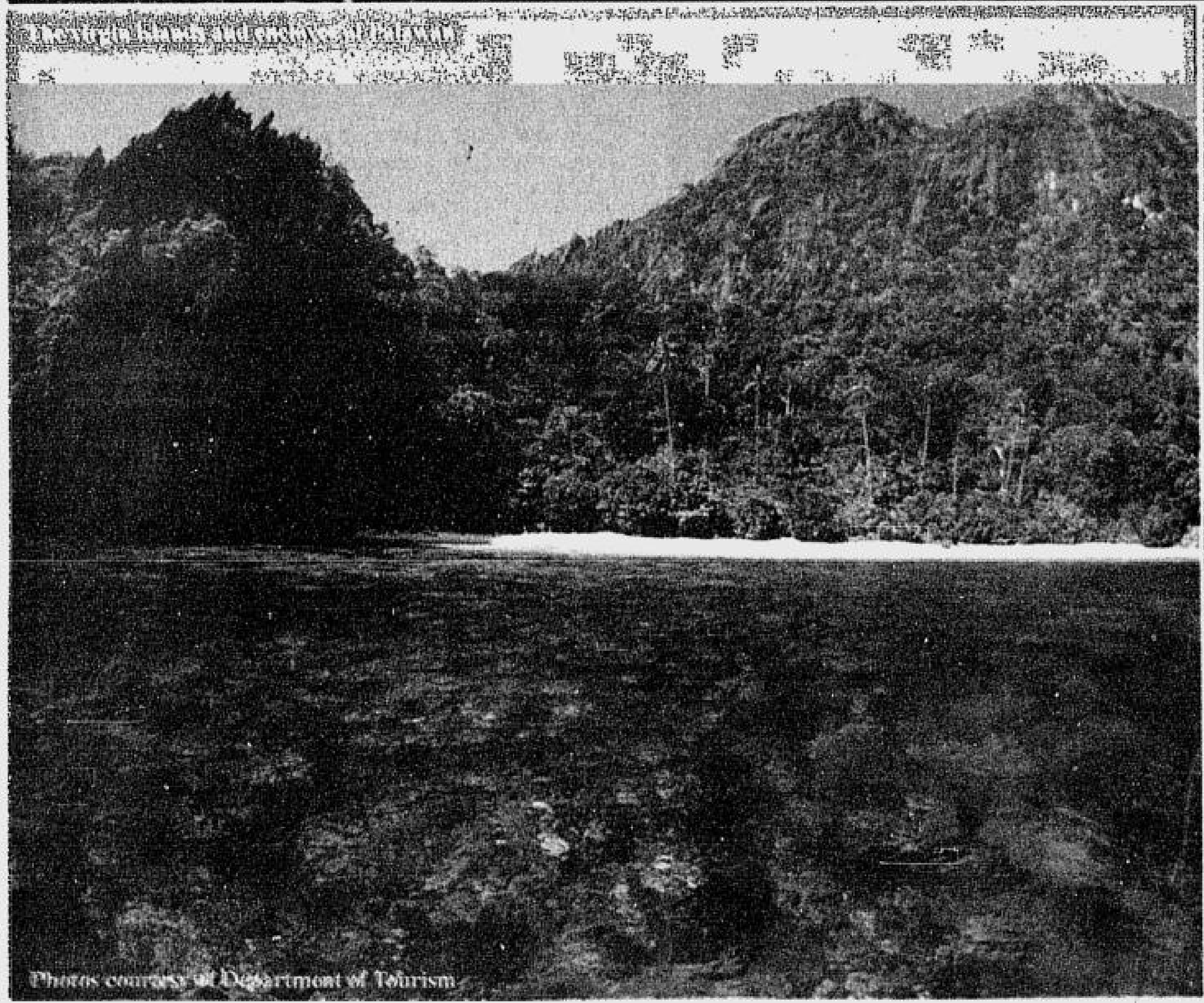


Breath taking Mt. Mayon in Bicol



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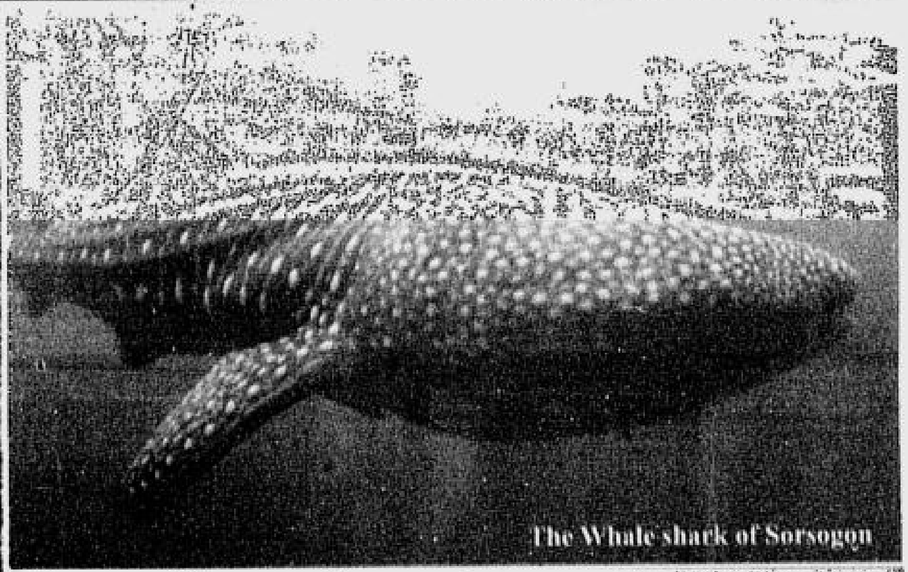
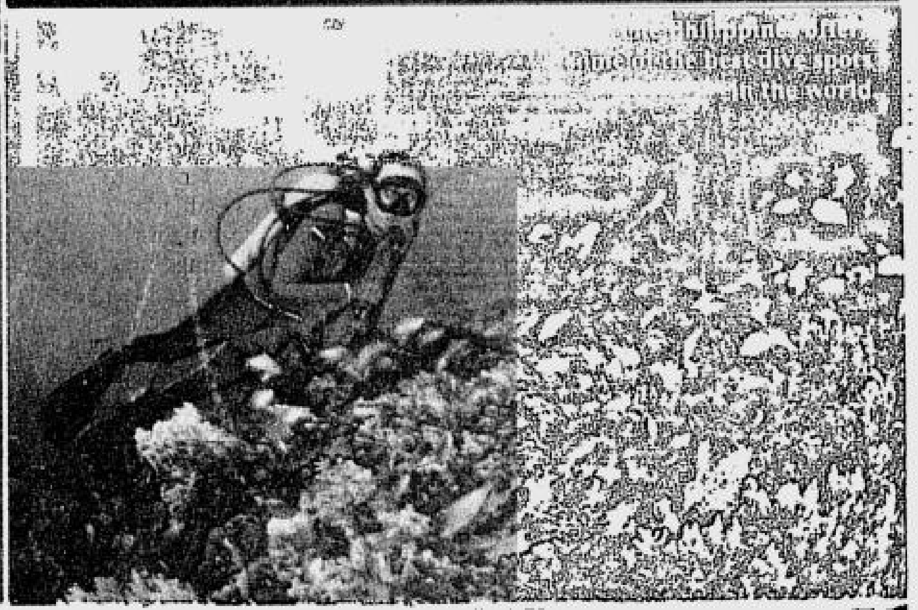
Photos courtesy of Department of Tourism



The Whale shark of Sorsogon



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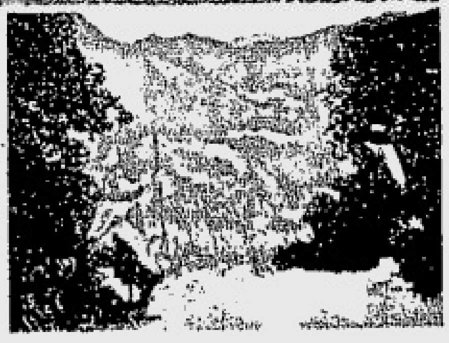

The Philippines' natural resources have always been the envy of most other nations. The natural beauty of our 7,000+ islands has been a cause for visitors from across the globe to visit our native shores. The Department of Tourism's WOW Philippines has introduced numerous pioneering campaign efforts that help bring in more tourists as well as aid Filipinos in this country to promote their own wonderful sights to people abroad. With the help of SMART Communications, Inc., the DOT aims to deliver our indigenous sights across the world through the advent of modern communication technology and continuous pertinent information for all travelers who visit our native shores. The Brainchild of secretary Richard M. Gordon, the initiative also aims to drive us Filipinos to help bring in more tourists and create a unified nationalistic belief in the world-classs tourist destinations that are prevalent throughout the Philippines. The time is ripe for all of us as Filipinos to promote our country to the world as a tourist destination of unparalleled beauty and undeniable charm. It is time for us to take pride and ownership over our nation.

One of their combined revolutionary promotional initiatives has been the introduction of the TRAVEL information service for travelers across the country. By typing TRAVEL on your SMART celfone and sending it to 2260, you can access a wealth of information pertinent to travelers across the nation. So no more wondering whether the price for this tour was overpriced or whether the bus you just hired was licensed to the DOT, with this service you're always in the right loop regarding travel information. This is just one of the important initiatives introduced by the DOT's WOW Philippines. There is more, and you should be sure to check them all out for yourselves on their website - www.tourism.gov.ph/index.asp.

It has never been easier for all Filipinos, with the help of SMART, to share the Philippines with others abroad. From anywhere in the Philippines to almost anywhere abroad, SMART subscribers are given unparalleled network coverage so that communicating via IDD or text has never been simpler or more cost-effective. While you're in the middle of a conversation with your loved ones please don't forget to remind them of the wonderful sights the Philippines has to offer. The ease and familiarity of texting should enable us Filipinos to remind those abroad of the unmatched beauty of the Philippines.

International MMS has added a new dimension to communicating with those in other shores. We, as Filipinos, can now proudly show anyone abroad how picturesque our native islands can be. By taking a photo of our favorite destinations and sending the picture via international MMS, we are now able to fully illustrate the amazing scenes of our country in the full glory of a color photograph. In case you SMART users run out of load while sending that beautiful photo of the pristine white sands of Boracay or the green pine mountains of Baguio, SMARTLoad allows you to load up your phone anytime, anywhere. Just visit your nearest SMARTLoad dealer for more details. At present, International MMS will only be available to the following countries – Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Malaysia, and Singapore.

It is time for us Filipinos the world over to regain our national consciousness and take ownership of our great country. Let us instill pride and dignity in our souls and spread it free-willingly towards all people across the world. Together with SMART and the DOT's WOW Philippines campaign, let us communicate our passion for our country and promote the beauty it holds within.

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Just Dial

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SMART International Text

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

WORLD-CLASS. (Front row) Gerry Katigbak, Bobby Novenario, Arnel Papa, Joey Enriquez, Dong Omaga-Diaz; (second row) Len Nepomuceno-Guiao, Tippi Ocampo, Jojie Lloren, Danny de la Cuesta, Dennis Lustico; (third row) Alex Pigao, Ricci Lizaso, Lulu Tan Gan, Randy Ortiz, Vittorio Barba, Frederick Peralta; (back row) Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Ramil Noveda, Robi Lolin, Larry Espinosa, Nono Palmos and Tonichi Nocum

Show to highlight current trends in RP fashion

LULU Tan Gan

ALEX Pigao

AFTER METRO magazine mounted the much-applauded retro show of designer Joe Salazar earlier this year, it pulls off another first by putting together an energetic mix of up-and-coming as well as seasoned designers in a fashion show that will capture current directions in Philippine fashion.

Set on Oct. 30, "Metro Wear" will have 24 designers from the Fashion Design Council of the Philippines (FDCP) presenting six designs each for summer 2004.

The show will display the top-quality craftsmanship of Filipino fashion designers PJ Arañador, Vittorio Barba, Danny de la Cuesta, Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Dong Omaga Diaz, Larry Espinosa, Lulu Tan Gan, Arcy Gayatin, Len Guiao, Oj Hofer, Gerry Katigbak, Rajo Laurel, Ricci Lizaso, Jojie Lloren, Robi Lolin, Dennis Lustico, Tonichi Nocum, Ramil Noveda, Bobby Novenario, Tippi Ocampo, Randy Ortiz, Nono Palmos, Frederick Peralta and Alex Pigao.

"Metro Wear," presented with Ponds Prevent and Correct Cream, will unfold at the spacious Studio 10 of ABS-CBN's ELJ Communication Center—the first time that a fashion show will be held in a TV studio.

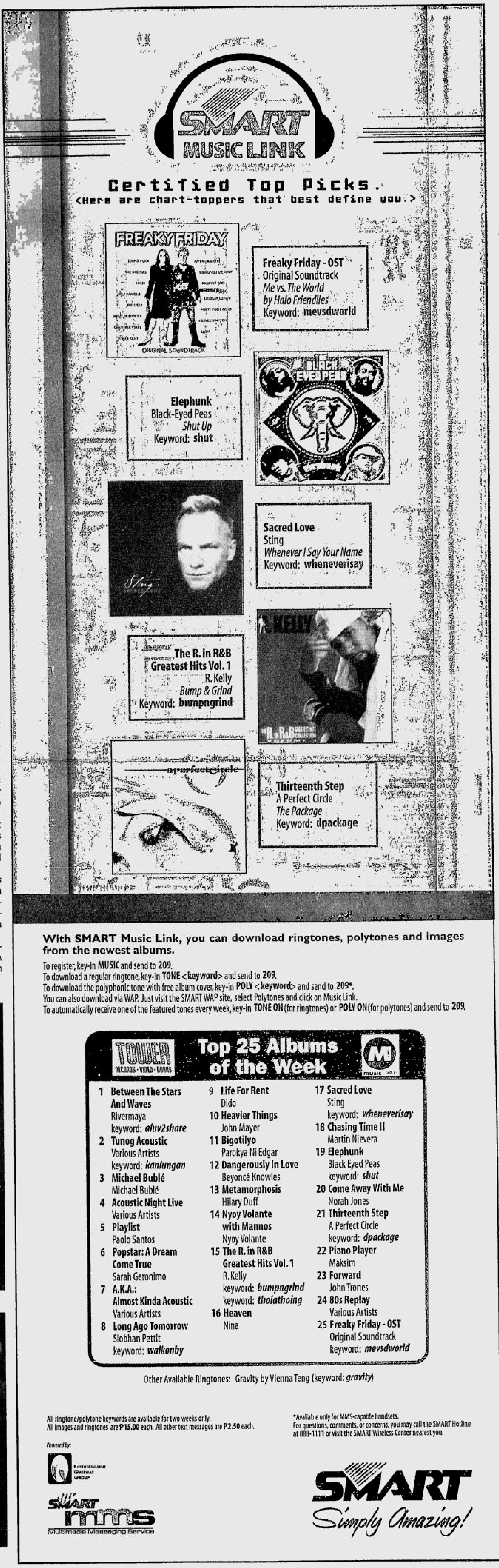
Metro magazine enjoys a fine reputation as one of the country's top lifestyle and fashion rags. But more than this, it has committed itself to the upliftment of Philippine fashion design by promoting Filipino designers through its annual shows and exhibitions.

"Metro Wear" is thus a salute to the world-class artistry of Filipino fashion designers. A by-invitation affair, "Metro Wear" starts with cocktails at 6 p.m. Show begins at 8 p.m.

VITTORIO Barba

BOBBY Novenario

TIPPI Ocampo LEN Nepomuceno-Guiao ROBI Lolin



SMART MUSIC LINK

Certified Top Picks.
<Here are chart-toppers that best define you.>

Freaky Friday - OST
Original Soundtrack
Me vs. The World
by Halo Friendlies
Keyword: mevsdworld

Elephunk
Black-Eyed Peas
Shut Up
Keyword: shut

Sacred Love
Sting
Whenever I Say Your Name
Keyword: wheneverisay

The R. in R&B
Greatest Hits Vol. 1
R. Kelly
Bump & Grind
Keyword: bumpngrind

Thirteenth Step
A Perfect Circle
The Package
Keyword: dpackage

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To download the polyphonic tone with free album cover, key-in **POLY <keyword>** and send to **209***.
You can also download via WAP. Just visit the SMART WAP site, select Polytones and click on Music Link.
To automatically receive one of the featured tones every week, key-in **TONE ON** (for ringtones) or **POLY ON** (for polytones) and send to **209**.

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Top 25 Albums of the Week
MUSIC UNI

1 **Between The Stars And Waves**
Rivermaya
keyword: ***aluv2share***
2 **Tunog Acoustic**
Various Artists
keyword: ***kanlungan***
3 **Michael Bublé**
Michael Bublé
4 **Acoustic Night Live**
Various Artists
5 **Playlist**
Paolo Santos
6 **Popstar: A Dream Come True**
Sarah Geronimo
7 **A.K.A.: Almost Kinda Acoustic**
Various Artists
8 **Long Ago Tomorrow**
Siobhan Pettit
keyword: ***walkonby***
9 **Life For Rent**
Dido
10 **Heavier Things**
John Mayer
11 **Bigotilyo**
Parokya Ni Edgar
12 **Dangerously In Love**
Beyoncé Knowles
13 **Metamorphosis**
Hilary Duff
14 **Nyoy Volante with Mannos**
Nyoy Volante
15 **The R. in R&B Greatest Hits Vol. 1**
R. Kelly
keyword: ***bumpngrind***
keyword: ***thoiathoing***
16 **Heaven**
Nina
17 **Sacred Love**
Sting
keyword: ***wheneverisay***
18 **Chasing Time II**
Martin Nievera
19 **Elephunk**
Black Eyed Peas
keyword: ***shut***
20 **Come Away With Me**
Norah Jones
21 **Thirteenth Step**
A Perfect Circle
keyword: ***dpackage***
22 **Piano Player**
Maksim
23 **Forward**
John Trones
24 **80s Replay**
Various Artists
25 **Freaky Friday - OST**
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LOVE is in the air. Chris Po and lovely wife Nannette Medved

OCTOBER celebrator Markus Schmidt with his cool partner Richard Danao

STYLIST for the Black Book night Karlo Evaristo with 24/7's JR Isaac

BIRTHDAY girl and her fun mom. Kara and Grace Ongsiako

PAUL Smith gang in party mood. Carmela Gana and Carlo Rufino

FIDEL partying babes Tina Vitas and Mariko

BLACK BOOK magazine's masterminds, Jay Rodriguez and Popoy Elvina

FAMILY guests at JMO party. Emman and Gaita Tan-Climaco

COOL doctor Jay Ongsiako with hip wife Bingbing Ongsiako.

ENJOYING two bands at the Ongsiakos' party. Jay and Joy Lagdameo

PARTYING until dawn at Fidel. Malu Gamboa, Andy and Kitty Jacinto, Leica Carpo, Tina Vitas and Sea Princess

UP College friends Dennis Valdes, in a Silk Cocoon *barong*, and Lawrence Tan

SMC's Grand Dame Gretchen Cojuangco and her dashing date for the night, grandson Eduardo III

I was a network star for a night—and wow!

I leave the fashion dissing to Alex Vergara, but if I have to do a Blackwell, I must complain about John Lapuz's Marie Antoinette—he upstaged me!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

OCTOBER is such a busy month. Since "octo" means eight, the weeks in October should have eight days! There are so many assorted social activities that some days I wake up not knowing what day it is, what with weekend-long partying, mid-week dinners and multiple events squeezed in between.

I seem to be a regular fixture at the Emphasis parlor and my designer friend, **Patrice Ramos-Diaz**, has been harassed with my I-need-this-today, what-can-I-wear? frantic phone calls.

Since I am sort of the funky icon for the little girls and the gay population, I really make the extra effort to dress to the T. And the outfits must always come with matching accessories and wigs.

Though I should reinvent myself, just like **Madonna**, I think present-day Sea Princess is still in vogue. Once I start wearing black again, then that's my social clue that I've finally decided to transform myself to another look.

Right now, I'm considering the classic **Jackie Kennedy** look—with the pearls, the Chanel suit and the real jewelry that came with American Camelot. Although this is an expensive forewarning to my husband, **Dennis**, he can sigh with relief because the **Jackie Onassis** look is even worse, what with the yachts and diamonds to go with that era.

Biggest in show biz

In the show biz world, the biggest "event of the year" happened last week. ABS-CBN's 50th anniversary show, titled "Kapamilya," was a showcase of all the star title holders (Megastar, Star for All Seasons, Drama Star, Pop Star, Telenovela Star, etc.) and all the glittering personalities of tinseltown. If you're in this industry, you had to be there that evening.

And the stars themselves had never twinkled so brightly.

Each of the ABS-CBN artists was dressed by the country's top couture designers. In fact, the list of the artists and their matching designers were in the program handed out. There were some last-minute changes, of course, as in the case of the "Morning Girls." **Kris Aquino** looked regal in a **JC Buendia** (not a **Rajo Laurel**) ensemble. Kris was masterful as she prompted her co-host, Tito **Pepe Pimentel**, since he could not see the TelePrompter.

Korina Sanchez wore an off-the-rack Escada (not a **Patis Tesoro**), which was a perfect fit on her.

My son's crush, **Aubrey Miles**, wore a fuchsia "sneak-preview" lace design by **Frederick Peralta**, almost Frederick's of Hollywood in its boldness. And I say, if you have the face and the body, flaunt it. When I e-mailed my son Aubrey's photo, he boasted to his friends that she was his girl back home.

From the red-carpet entry to the chandelier-lit cocktail area—show biz glam had finally arrived. I could not even single out an artist who looked awful, and anyway, dissing gowns is **Alex Vergara**'s area. Well, maybe I will complain about one gown. **John Lapuz** totally upstaged me with his Marie Antoinette outfit. From his powdered wig to his hoop skirt, "Sweet" was hilarious.

It was a night where both the social and show biz worlds intermingled and looked glamorous. Good thing my **Dennis Lustico** gown was a standout and was as stunning as the rest.

If there is one thing the Philippines can be proud of, it's our Pinoy talent. We are totally gifted in this area and we should focus on this instead of our politics. Wouldn't that be an amazing headline: "Gabby Lopez in Armani tuxedo wows crowd."

Aside from all the socials occupying my time, there are still the hours spent watching the tube. Is everyone hooked on "24"? To those of you who still don't have cable or who haven't bought the DVDs, this new-concept TV series all happens in one day. In the US, season two is done and it is, believe me, totally addicting. I even watched the first season on actual time as the show, like the 2 a.m. episode at that same time.

That 'Sex' show

But lately, it's been back to my favorite, "Sex and the City." Last week, I attended the launch of season five at Conway's in Makati Shangri-La. Sky Cable and Home Cable had some HBO executives over from Hong Kong to grace the event. Too bad they didn't bring one of the artists from the series, like when they brought Mr. Big last year to Hong Kong.

Was it perhaps a security issue? Anyway, we just had to settle for the giveaway sexy lingerie from Sari Sari Store. I guess their intent was to literally promote sex in this city.

Sometimes there are days when I feel I have been married too long. When I am asked to be a speaker to talk about my wedding in a bridal event, I just have to laugh. Unusual request because my wedding was nine years ago.

Wedding Works' **Bang Zaldivar**, an excellent wedding planner and TV host, asked me to be part of the show, which will be aired on Studio 23. I talked about my wedding for the nth time but still with the same excitement.

Still another October event was the launch of a new magazine called Black Book at Dream Bar. I am devoted to the world of modeling, although I never made the height requirement, and I was thrilled that the night was filled with gorgeous models and agents. Editor in chief **Jay Rodriguez** has access to their numbers so you all know who to befriend.

Birthdays

I just realized October is the birth month of so many close friends. My best friend since high school, **Tessa Alindogan** (funny that we even have the same first name) turned 40 on Oct. 22. We just pigged out at Paseo Uno in Mandarin Hotel. I ate so much that the complimentary birthday cake (thanks to Ms

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GORGEOUS men in black. Keren Pascual, Miguel Pastor, Ben Chan and Diether Ocampo

EQUALLY glam non-show biz guests. JR Isaac, Celine Lopez in an elegant Rhett Eala, L'Oreal's Leica Carpo and Patrick Reyno

PHOTO-OP at the bridal fair hosted by Wedding Works' Bang Zaldivar. Cristina Gonzales Romualdez (second from right) was one of the guest speakers.

TH Border rocks Dasma
e with its cool sounds.

PARTYING guests at the Black Book launch. Jesi Mendez, Marilise Evaristo, Henri Calayag and Wanda Louwallien

THREE men and a babe! Troy Montero, Marvin Agustin, sexy Geneva Cruz and Dominic Ochoa

LIBRA girl Tessa Alindogan with her birthday cake at Paseo Restaurant, Mandarin Hotel

"**SEX** in the City" launch at Conway's. Juno Chuidian, Euan and Dorothy Fannel, Hoyle Disuanco and Arlene Torres

MA in the Royal High Court.
apuz interviews Sea
ss

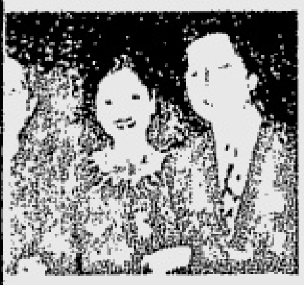
ELEGANT couple at the Forum. Eric Valade and his belle, Jambi Madrigal

CBN's fashionable women.
a Sanchez, Dyan Castillejo
es Drilon

FABULOUS and stylish couple Wendy and Tony Hotung

Cocoon's designing
en. Frances Lim with
ie Goulbourn and
wed daughter Katrina

MAKEUP maverick Patrick Rosas and designer to the stars Inno Sotto.


NTED, stylish friends
Vijande, Wyn-wyn Ong
icky Toledo

BEAUTIFUL couple soon to wed? Audrey Tan and Rep. Miguel Zubiri

ION faves of show biz
Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Len
, Frederick Peralta and Joji
n

ELEGANT Ayen Laurel

Charisse Chuidian) had to be "doggie-bagged."

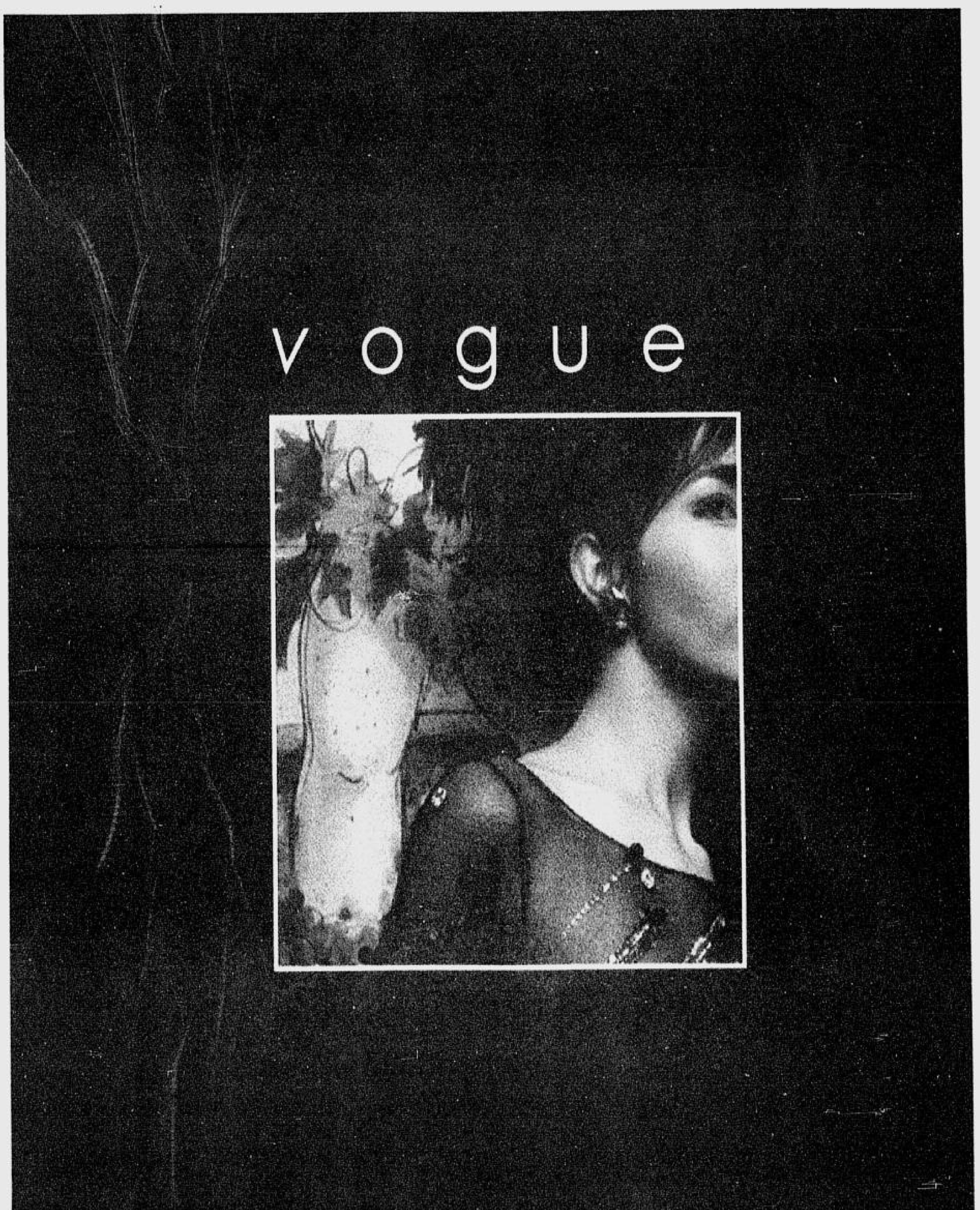
Juan Miguel Ongsiako had a big birthday bash together with his brother **Joselito** and Joselito's daughter **Kara**. Mommy **Grace Ongsiako** got two bands to celebrate the day properly—Pido with Jen Panuncio and South Border rocked the whole of Dasmariñas Village with their pop songs. Of course, I must have shocked the teenyboppers as I danced the night away.

The bands were so good, I can hardly wait for Dish to open in the ABS building this December. If only I could sing, I would jam with the bands, just as Juan Miguel did that night.

From Makati to Malate, the party scene was in full gear in Fidel. The big/little king (or queen) of Malate, **Marcus Schmidt** celebrated his 40th with '80s music mixed by DJ **Cocoy Puyat**. Totally intoxicating, that's Malate ambience, and at Fidel everyone was intoxicatingly totaled.

All that nonstop action, and Halloween's not even here yet. Clearly, as a costume lover, Halloween is my time of the year and I can't wait until Friday the 31st. Should I dress up as Wendy the Good Witch or Eris the Goddess of Discord from "Sinbad"? Am open to suggestion. Just don't suggest Freddy Krueger.

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph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July unmasked!

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Exploding in intense colors, Masskara Festival-style!

The expressway to see the sights of Bacolod City is through the Intensity G motorcade.

Intensity G Stirs Up Masskara 2003

Say G!!!!

Parade contingents get into the Intensity G spirit.

Globe Handyphone's regional roadshow Intensity G recently went down to the Visayan city of Bacolod to reach out and connect with its Bacolodnon subscribers during the *24th Masskara Festival.* Masskara, a term which literally means 'face of the masses' is held annually every third week of October. The week-long celebration which coincided with The City of Smiles' charter day, highlighted the locals' cultural and musical artistry. For this year's Masskara Festival, Intensity G adhered to the festival theme of "Celebrate Life" by mounting events and activities such as sales blitzes, bar raids, concerts and a motorcade which raised Masskara's already festive atmosphere.

The Intensity G motorcade gave Bacolodnons a chance to see Globe Prepaid X-treme Memory SIM endorser July in the flesh. Throngs lined up along Lacson Street to get a glimpse of July as well as to scramble for the FREE premium Intensity G merchandise that the popular celebrity was giving away.

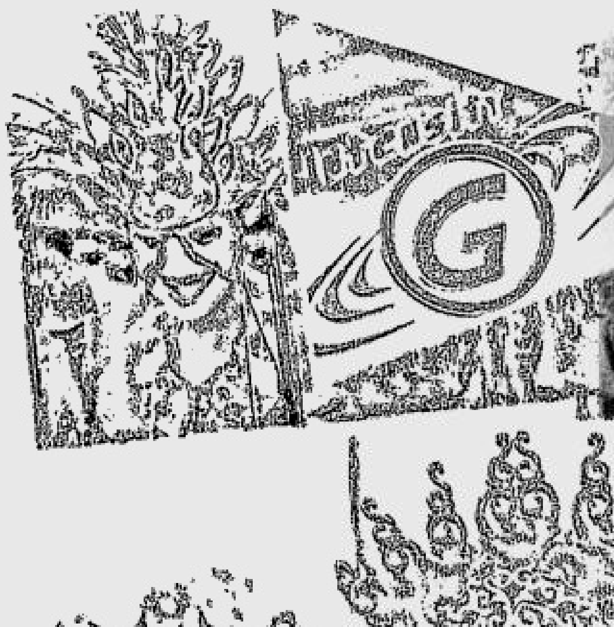
Cellphone enthusiasts flocked to Gaisano City Mall and the Globe Business Center at Robinson's Place to avail of Globe Prepaid X-treme Memory SIM cards, Globe Call and Text Cards and the latest G-Plan deals. July gladly signed autographs and had his pictures taken with delighted fans.

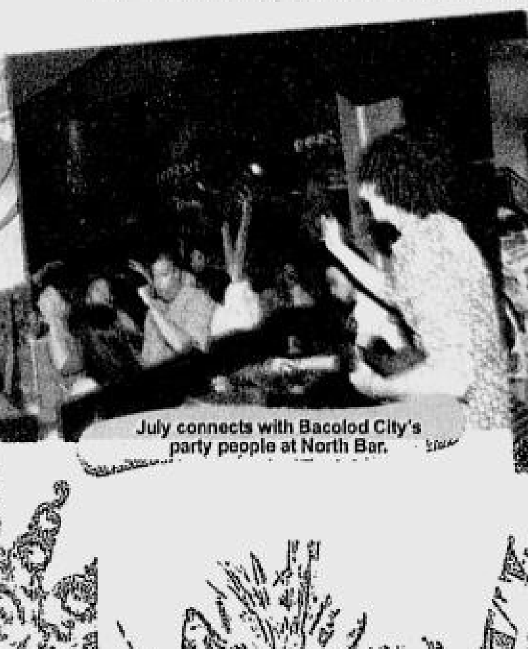
The Globe- sponsored concerts and parties at Bacolod City's trendy bars and clubs like North Bar and MO2 drew a convergence of the city's fashionistas and party people, who danced and grooved the night away listening to great music from a fusion of excellent local bands like La Carlotta Drum Ensemble and Ramoth Gilead, as well as top Manila acts like 11th Hour and Nino Alejandro.

The Masskara Festival's highlight was the exuberant Grand Mask Parade. Participants from more than twenty different *barangays* from all over the city, including the Globe contingent, danced their way through the streets of Bacolod amidst an explosion of colorful costumes and elaborate masks and headdresses. The smiling masks that delegates wore symbolized the local belief that a community with a bright and positive outlook can effect change.

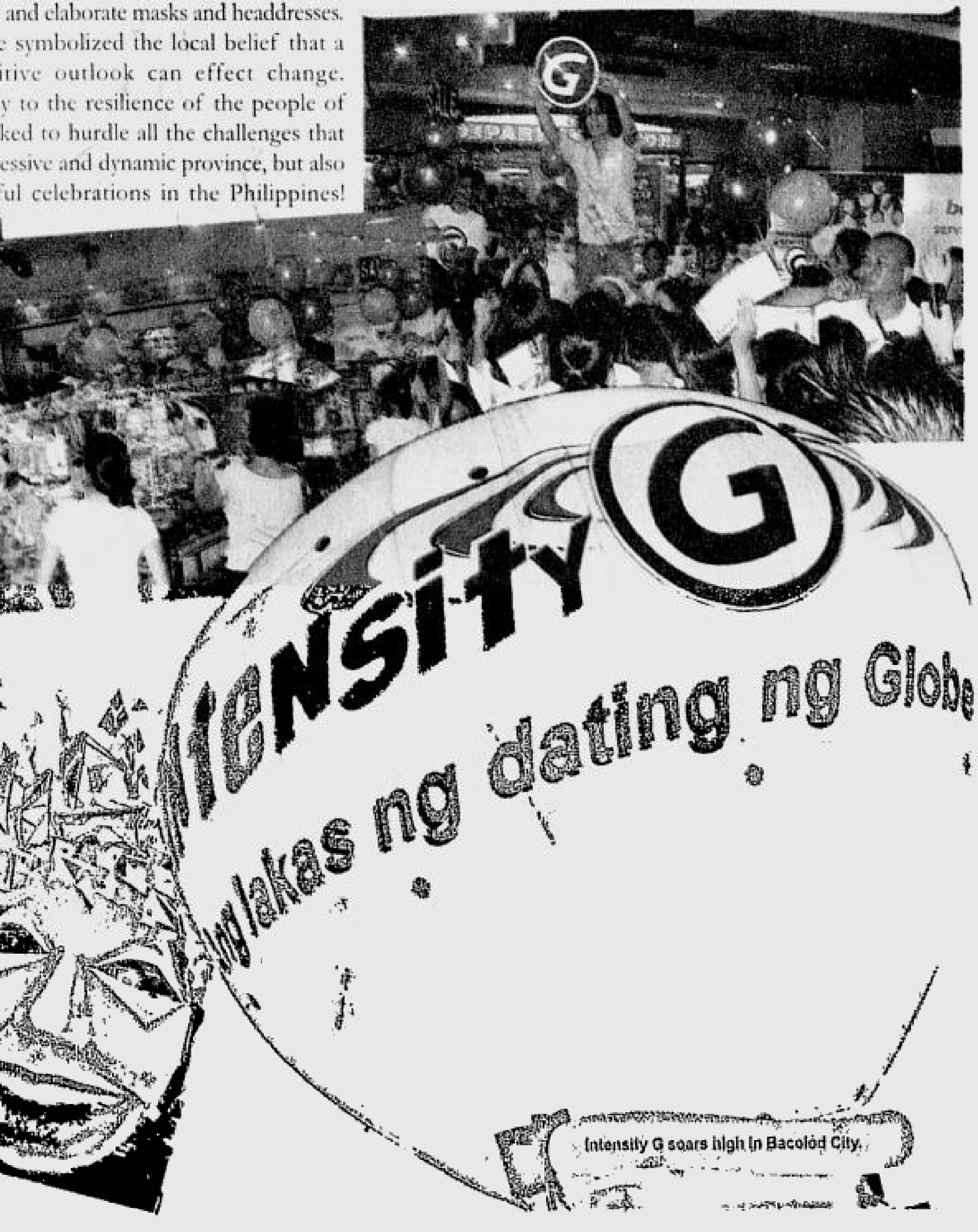
The Masskara Festival is a testimony to the resilience of the people of Negros Occidental. Together they worked to hurdle all the challenges that beset them, and created not only a progressive and dynamic province, but also one of the happiest and most colorful celebrations in the Philippines!

Bacolod goes into a buying frenzy with Globe's extreme cellphone deals.

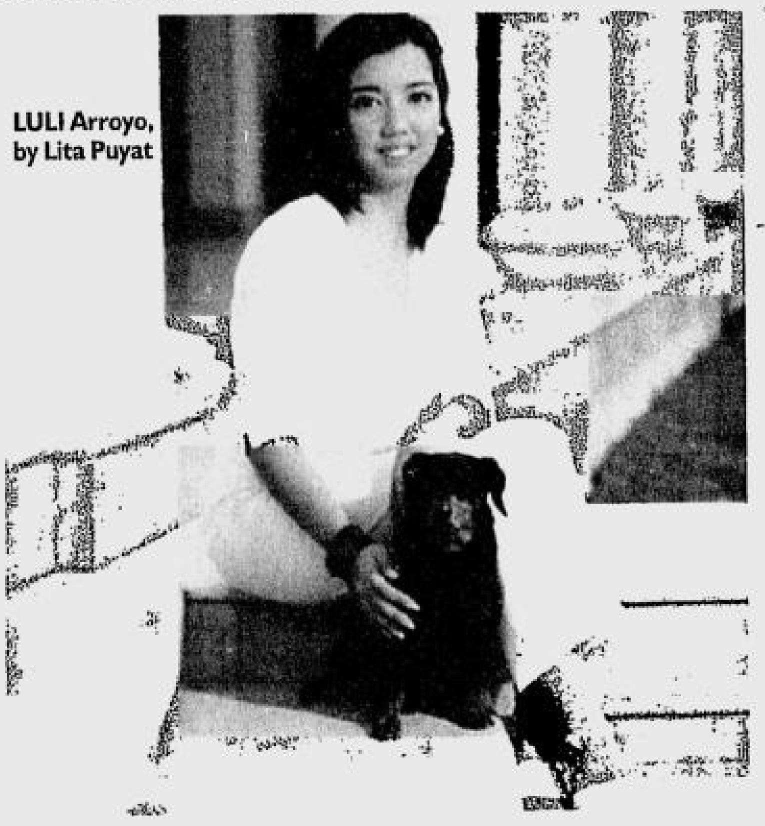



July connects with Bacolod City's party people at North Bar.

Masks galore at the Masskara Festival.


Intensity G
lakas ng dating ng Globe
Intensity G soars high in Bacolod City.

Sunday LifeStyle



LULI Arroyo, by Lita Puyat

Six shutterbugs stage a dog show

PLAYTIME

By the Staff

PHILIPPINE photography is going to the dogs—literally.

On Nov. 8, Rockwell will witness the launching of "Canine Celebrities Gallery"—an exhibit of portraits of local celebrities bonding with their canine pets. The celebrities themselves will sashay down the catwalk with their darling dogs in tow, and both pet and owner will be dressed to the nines by Rustan's. How's that for sheer animal pleasure?

Among the 20 or so famous names gracing this homage to pet love are Charlene Gonzales, Jericho Rosales, Richard Gomez, presidential daughter Luli Arroyo, Nedy Tantoco, Patxi Elizalde and Sophia Zobel.

For this project, the first blast of Rustan's Responsible Pet Ownership campaign, Rustan's and copresentor Metro Magazine have hand-picked six of Manila's finest photographers—celebrities themselves by virtue of their stature in the business—to do the stars' portraits.

Jun de Leon, Wig Tysmans, Lita Puyat, Bengy Toda, Tom Epperson and Neal Oshima (who couldn't make it to Playtime) have been responsible for some of the best and most provocative images shot, traditionally or digital, this side of town. As favored chroniclers of the rich, the frivolous, the chic and the powerful, they're masters at coaxing the best out of any subject—including, apparently, Bantay.

Did you get to choose your own celebrities?

Wig Tysmans (WT): In the beginning. Then, of course, our schedules had to coincide.

But you had to shoot them all at the same time?

Lita Puyat (LP): No, whenever they were available.

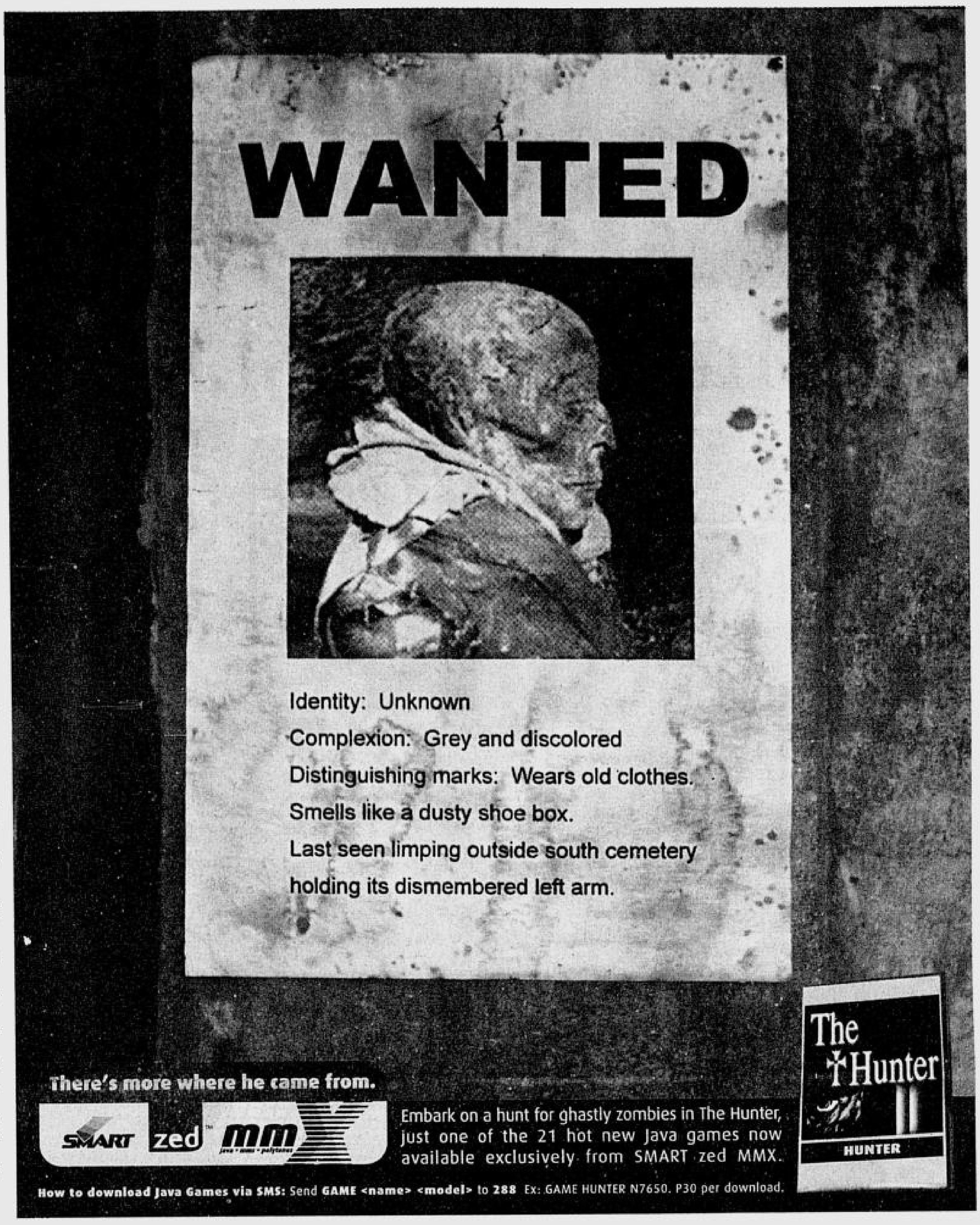
WT: And when the photographers were also available.

Bengy Toda (BT): And when the dogs were available, too. (Laughter)

Tom Epperson (TE): There's one dog that's still not available. (Laughter)

Have you shot dogs before? (Laughter)

LP: Yeah, sure, with a camera.



WANTED

Identity: Unknown

Complexion: Grey and discolored

Distinguishing marks: Wears old clothes. Smells like a dusty shoe box.

Last seen limping outside south cemetery holding its dismembered left arm.

There's more where he came from.

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TOM Epperson

BENGY Toda

LITA Puyat

JUN de Leon

WIG Tysmans

PHOTOS: ERNIE SARMIENTO

WT: Well, it's pretty easy. The owners could actually handle their dogs if they became mischievous.

LP: It's harder to shoot them alone and get them to react, *diba?*

BT: Depends on the dog. Depends on the character of the dog. Some dogs are okay. Some are very quiet. No problem.

LP: They are like little kids. It's easier to photograph them when there's a person who can contain them.

WT: Dogs have a shorter attention span than children.

But personally, do you like dogs?

TE: I worked with one dog. (Laughter) But I got my dog, a Dalmatian, from Bengy.

BT: I breed dogs.

Jun de Leon (JD): Thelma (San Juan, Metro editor) just twisted my arm. (Laughter) So when Celine (Lopez) asked me to shoot, Celine kinda warned me, "Jun, *medyo makulit yang dog ko.*"

LP: My family grew up with dogs. My mom had dogs, my sister had dogs. Now that I live by myself, I can't have a dog because I'm never home. But we always had them.

Have you worked together before?

LP: No, we have been involved with some of the same projects but we've never worked together.

How do you define a celebrity photographer from a plain photographer?

WT: Those who photograph social functions, I guess they're celebrity photographers. (Laughter)

JD: I'm not aware that I'm a celebrity photographer. 'Cause that's the first problem I encounter whenever I shoot celebrities. I try to erase that word, "celebrity." That's how I deal with them.

How do you feel about being photographed?

LP: I have no problem with that.

WT: Yeah. You know it's rare that we're photographed. So, we like it.

BT: Yeah, I photographed Tom. Tom photographed me.

WT: I think only Neal doesn't like to be photographed.

LP: Neal will never be photographed.

JD: Me, I'm not comfortable with shooting and interviews. (Laughter)

Who are your favorite subjects?

WT: There's many *eh.* There's no single person. Because some celebs, we do once a year or twice a year. Like Jun, to cite an example: I think Sharon Cuneta only wants Jun de Leon as her photographer.

TE: Are we talking strictly of celebrities or anybody?

Celebrities, like the icons.

TE: I'd say Angel Aquino, Mylene Dizon.

JD: In my entire 31 years [as a

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SMART Simply Amazing!

LITA Puyat, Neal Oshima, Metro magazine's Apa Ongpin, Wig Tysmans, Tom Epperson and Jun de Leon

But you had to shoot them all at the same time?

LP: No, whenever they were available.

WT: And when the photographers were also available.

BT: And when the dogs were available, too. (Laughter)

TE: There's one dog that's still not available (Laughter)

Six shutterbugs stage a dog show

From page G1

photographer], I have one memorable shoot: when I did the whole Lakas team in one seating.

How long did that take?

JD: From 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. Imagine 14 people multiplied by 5... now orchestrate that.

So how much did you make?

WT: A lot. (Laughter)

How would you feel doing it for the other parties?

JD: I did two for Laban and one other party. Then we made an agreement that if I dropped the two, I could take the whole Lakas. Not a bad deal.

Do you personally avoid particular people because of your advocacy?

LP: You can always say "no."

WT: Yeah, that's our advantage.

LP: If you don't feel good about the subject, then you're not honest to your profession, so there's no point.

WT: When you do a lot of people subjects—and I do also—you are asked to do politicians. Well, not all politicians you like. Or sometimes you just don't know them. So you prefer not to do it, or pass it on to somebody who's more familiar with them. Then they will do justice [to the subject].

ANNA Angara, by Wig Tysmans

LP: There's no point [doing it] if you don't feel good about your subject...

WT: Well, I guess at the beginning of our careers... You kind of had to bid for some photo assignment or another. But you know, I think you have the right to say "I'm not comfortable," so why not give it to somebody who's more comfortable? Like for instance, I prefer to shoot women for the glossies. And if there are men assigned to me, I'd say, why not get women photographers or some of the other photographers who like photographing men? Maybe they'll do better. Of course, there are some men that I'd love to photograph. People who are easy to photograph. It all depends, really.

Are you good with the business side of your craft...

WT: Yes and no.

...Or do you need someone, an outsider to handle your finances?

WT: It's good when you have a manager...

BT: Somebody who runs it [the business] because you don't want to take money, no.

WT: You get emotional.

LP: Yeah.

WT: Especially *kung binabarat ka na.*

JD: And that's the sad part in photography. Business is secondary.

LP: I have to do everything myself. The billings, I'm the one who handles that.

WT: But take note, there are jobs we would do even for almost nothing. If you really like it, you get the work done. So, *suwerte nung mga yun.*

BT: It really depends on the circumstances. In some jobs, they have to pay me a lot. (Laughter) More money to make me move.

What jobs would you do for free?

WT: If it's something very creative, it lets you think a lot and it's challenging. You like to do something like that. Of course, we like to be paid a decent price. But if they come right out and say, "Yeah, but we can only afford this amount," then after 20 minutes or so, "*Sige, gawin na natin.*" Sometimes *kasi*, it's just the shooting itself.

But can you say that photographers are now paid decently?

WT: No.

LP: No.

TE: No, I think it's worse. I think a lot of the young guys who came to the industry in the last three years really don't understand the business, the business side of it.

But we have so many glossies right now, you have so many avenues.

BT: For sure, they won't get us. They'll get the young guys whom they can get for nothing.

WT: *Kasi* if it's a simple job, they'll get people who need the exposure and can afford a better deal. A lot of us rely on our personal clients. Without that, it's like in the advertising industry. There's no such thing as a "*suki*" anymore. So the job you do now, you might have to re-bid again with other people. Just like that.

We thought certain agencies would use certain photographers all the time.

WT: Nope, it's a bidding war.

TE: I worked in Australia and it was totally different there. They hire a photographer based on his forte; if you're a car photographer, you can't do fashion. There's no doing both. I've worked with guys who did still lifes and who'd be lost if they tried to do fashion.

BT: Here, they go for the cheapest one.

So you bid for assignments like advertising contracts?

JD: I don't bid. I believe in prequalification.

BT: I don't bid also.

Is there an industry association or alliance that regulates or at least manages your profession—like designers' associations, for instance?

WT: There are some agencies...

JD: We don't have agents, unlike in the US.

BT: Well, yeah, there's APP. And there are camera clubs all over the Philippines, but for amateurs. For professionals, there's only the APP and ASAP..

LP: Advertising Suppliers Association...

BT: But you have to be in the APP to join the ASAP.

Have there been any attempts to professionalize the industry in terms of pay?

WT: Oh, many, many times! (Laughter)

BT: Every year that's what everybody talks about. But the people who do that are going to die with the process because there are so many jobs and there are so many photographers. But, you know, when the economy goes down, the first thing that will be removed is photography. People will recycle old photographs.

Are there more photographers now because of technology?

WT: Sure. The industry now is really very saturated.

BT: Everybody is a wedding photographer. (Laughter)

TESSA Prieto-Valdes, by Tom Epperson

WT: In Manila alone, there are about 250 people who do wedding photography.

TE: I think a lot of people think they can be a photographer. Once they have a digital camera, that makes them a photographer. But that's a big mistake. They rely too much on the computer or digital side of it, without knowing the craft.

WT: Well, definitely, the digital thing has simplified photography.

BT: The learning curve is much faster.

Have you tried using digital cameras at a professional level?

BT: I haven't. I'm against that...

Why?

BT: Because I think you have to learn to use film first to shoot in digital well. You'll have to know the principles of film, like how film reacts to certain situations. Anybody can pick up a digital camera and think that he knows what he's doing.

WT: Yeah, I think you should go through the basics of photography first before you can claim to be a photographer.

But that's what technology is for, isn't it? It has made it possible to skip certain steps.

LP: It's like video and film. When video came out and video cameras became available to the mass market, people could bring it out and you didn't have to light anything because the video cameras would be light-sensitive. But there's still a difference between a cinematographer and an amateur videographer. [In short], it's not really the camera, but the person behind the camera.

RENEE Speltz, by Bengy Toda

So then, it's the same with a digital camera, if it's someone like you who's handling the digital camera.

BT: But I don't see the need for it because I own a film lab, you see. I process my own film, and I process it very well. (Laughter)

Is something lost in digital photography?

WT: A lot.

BT: Yes.

Like what?

WT: You cannot separate light the same way the film does.

JD: It's the romance of photography that you lose by using the digital camera.

Do you think there will come a time when digital photography will be as good as film?

WT: Oh yeah.

LP: Yes, of course.

WT: It may even outdo film.

BT: But not now.

WT: Now, if you buy a digital camera, you pay for the development of the later models.

BT: That's the problem with digital cameras. The moment you buy it, it's obsolete.

TE: There are still some things film can do that digital cameras can't.

Like what?

TE: Well, like I just did a two-hour shoot that was all lit by moonlight. Digital cameras won't do for that. It would be a totally different look. It won't even take the exposure correctly. But I have to admit that it does have its good side.

WT: For commercial work, digital photography has definitely simplified the lives of photographers.

WT: *Wala nang kaba.*

JD: *Wala na.*

TE: There's no soul in digital photography.

JD: But for catalogues it's perfect.

WT: Yeah, commercial work.

But for portraits and projects like that?

JD: Film, definitely.

Fashion?

JD: Film.

But don't you think digital cameras are more practical to use than film cameras?

LP: I have a digital camera, and I love it. So I disagree with them. (laughter) I use it for portraiture, I use it for fashion, I use it for professional and commercial work. I use it as digital assist for shooting films. And I use film. I have a black-and-white darkroom, I have a high-end digital printer, and I love them all. So why can't I use both?

But why do you keep using film if you love your digital camera so much?

LP: Because there's nothing like the black-and-white traditional printing in the darkroom and the crisp look of film. I still use films a lot. But I'm not averse to using digital cameras.

TE: It's true, actually—the magic of the darkroom.

JD: Everything is pre-approved in digital photography. Everything is "Okay, that's done, let's pack up."

LP: A lot of photographers use digital cameras because they improve the work a lot, I think. Especially corporate work.

Do you feel threatened by digital technology?

LP: No. I love it.

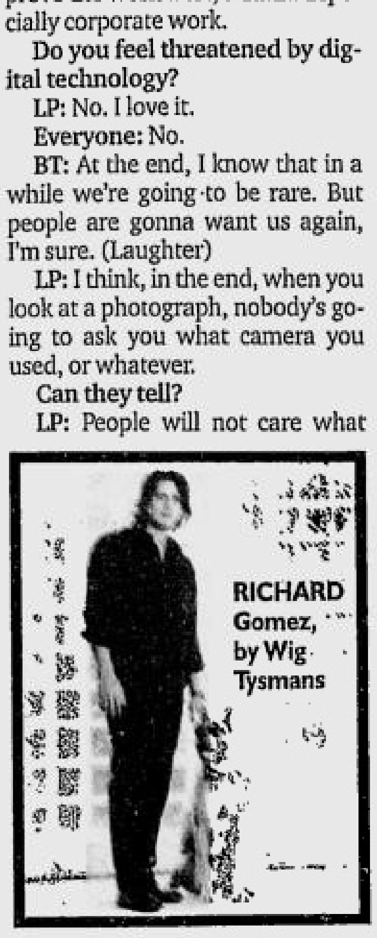
Everyone: No.

BT: At the end, I know that in a while we're going to be rare. But people are gonna want us again, I'm sure. (Laughter)

LP: I think, in the end, when you look at a photograph, nobody's going to ask you what camera you used, or whatever.

Can they tell?

LP: People will not care what you use.


RICHARD Gomez, by Wig Tysmans

JD: I don't understand the argument over film and digital. The bottom line is, the photos are there.

TE: That's right.

Can digital photography compensate for lack of talent?

TE: I don't think it will compensate for that.

BT: You'll get a bad picture because the guy doesn't understand what exposure is, for one.

JD: Digital has just made things faster, but not better.

TE: It also made photographers work more behind the computer, I think. Or you have to hire somebody to do that for you, so it hasn't made it easier. But sure, you get your photographs anytime.

Back to the shoot: You say pets are harder to shoot than children because their attention span is shorter? What else is hard to do?

BT: The small children are the hardest because they also have a very short attention span.

NEDY Tantoco, by Jun de Leon

WT: They, and politicians and some chairmen of the boards. (Laughter)

BT: Yeah, They're also terrible, they're like children, you know. (Laughter)

WT: Yeah, like for annual reports, they give you five minutes and they wanna look good!

Of course, our PR needs to work very well, because we have to talk to them and say, "Hey, c'mon, give me a little time to make you look good."

So a photographer has to be good in business and has to have PR.

WT: I think 80 percent of our business is really PR.

LP: It's a given in any profession *naman eh.*

JD: When you're shooting people, I would call it relationship, not PR.

[To Jun] Have you fallen in love with your subject?

WT: Always. (Laughter)

Are you talking about him (Jun) or yourself?

WT: Talking about him. (Laughs)

JD: Aside from being a photographer, I'm a human being. (Laughter)

LP: Does that answer the question? (Laughter)

WT: About 10 years ago, people would come to me after they've been photographed by him (Jun). And I would always be intimidated *kasi* they'd say "I want *naman* something like the one Jun did for me." And I'd think, "*Paano ko mag-agawa yon e* in love *sa 'yo yung tao?*" (Laughter)

Jun's background we know, since he started in journalism. What about the rest of you?

WT: I started as a photojournalist also. I was a stringer for Associated Press in the early '70s. I was based in Baguio, so I shot anything that came my way. But when they wanted me to come to Manila, I didn't like the idea because I was not a journalist that way. I did a lot of documentary work in my earlier days, and I think that's where we developed this thing about people, PR, stuff like that. When you do hardcore documentary work, it gets very interesting. You're not only thinking as a photographer, you're also there because you're curious. Most of it is really curiosity.

LP: I started in photography when I was 14, then I was a hobbyist for a long time. I studied film in college and ended up working in the movies for a few years as an assistant director... I was a student of Mike de Leon in the late '70s, and that was great. That was the golden age of Filipino films, I think. When I came back from my studies, I got back to still photography here. I only got into it professionally because people started asking me to shoot them. I figured if I wanted to continue upgrading my equipment, I had to justify that.

TE: I started with photos when I was young, but I didn't get involved until I was 32. I lived in Australia and I was probably the oldest assistant at 32. Most assistants were between 17 and 22. I think I wanted to do it when I was younger, but I was making such good money in the animation industry. Then I was on my way to work one day and I was reading a story about a photographer who went to cover the Vietnam War. I was so impressed with her story that I quit my job that night, after 14 years. I packed it all and went off to be an assistant. In my first year as an assistant, I made AUS$2,000, and at 32 that was quite frightening.

BT: I started in college. I studied photography, printing black and white. I forgot all about it for maybe 20 years. I was doing different things... Then I started shooting again and I felt that there were no good labs. So I started up my own lab, and pretty soon photographers were coming to use my lab, and I concentrated more on the lab services, bringing premier lab services to this country. All of these guys are my clients. (Laughter)

What's you bread and butter. Is it weddings? The glossies?

All: Not the glossies. (Laughter)

TE: But they're a necessary evil. (Laughter)

JD: Advertising. (all nod)

TE: It's a wide spectrum. It changes from year to year. One year you may do a lot of advertising, next year more of corporate work.

WT: Corporate, portraiture, a little bit of advertising.

LP: Portraiture, film and a lot of direct clients for their advertising publishing needs.

There is still a market for portraiture?

LP: Yeah, all the time.

Do people buy photographs now from exhibits?

LP: Sometimes.

TE: Yeah, definitely.

WT: It's less and less, because of this idea that they think it can be repeated. You have to sell in edition and be honest about it. When you exhibit, you have to number it. Customers should know that beyond the X number of editions, it goes to an archive or maybe for use in a printing of a book, and that's about it. But not anymore sold as a print.

When did you feel that you have arrived as a photographer?

SIX/G3

Six shutterbugs stage a dog show

From page G2

LP: Never.

WT: I think it's like being asked the question, "What's your masterpiece?" I think the next one is.

LP: Not yet.

WT: Always the next one.

LP: Yeah.

You're not just being humble?

All: No.

All the attention, for example, has not convinced you that you have arrived.

WT: I wish we could convert that into money. (laughter)

***Baka* with money, you will lose the art?**

WT: I don't think so. I think that will help us a lot! (Laughter)

BT: We'll have better pictures.

Do you give the stylist a free hand, or you control everything?

LP: We collaborate.

TE: I'm married to a stylist (laughter). Just getting out of bed for me is really difficult. Your wife looks at you and shakes her head and you know you got the wrong things on... It's very handy to have a good stylist in the studio, especially when you're doing fashion, because she'll see things I won't be able to see. I don't understand clothes as well as a stylist does, and it's good to have a second set of eyes there.

BT: I rely on a stylist. I demand it because I feel there are more important things to do. Other photographers like getting involved with everything, I don't. I like to stand back and look at what's happening and take the picture. Let them worry about the styling.

How do you feel about criticism?

WT: Oh, we welcome it!

LP: I wish more people would criticize instead of do PR... It's really satisfying when somebody buys something from your exhibit. The feeling is different. If they give you a check after you finish the assignment for an advertising or editorial piece, you feel you're a professional and you did the job. But if they buy your photograph from an exhibit even if it's but a third of the price of the ad that you did, it's a totally different feeling... I think that's what's really lacking here in Manila now, and it would be great if people would criticize your personal photography, not your advertising and editorial photography... It's really surprising when they say something about your photograph and you were not even thinking that when you were shooting it.

WT: We missed a lot in terms of photography as art, because up to now, people like us still do salon-type photography— exhibits, portraits and fashion... In Europe, what sells are journalistic photographs. Compared to paintings they would be expressionistic, very graphic.

Who are your icons in photography?

WT: (Richard) Avedon, Irving Penn. They still do work now in their 80s, and they still amaze us every time.

LP: Avedon.

TE: Albert Watson.

BT: Avedon.

JD: Locally, it's Neal Oshima and Wig Tysmans. (Laughter)

Sipsip!

JD: No, those two I respect the most. Outside, Helmut Newton. Well, there's Annie Leibovitz. She's the one who invented celebrity journalism.

When you're not working, what do you do?

TE: Play in a band. I take a lot of photographs, too.

JD: I work six days a week. Sundays are for my family.

BT: I go fishing.

LP: I love to entertain my friends, I love to cook, read, travel... I like baking...

WT: Movies. I like to go to the movies.

How often do you take photos of your loved ones?

WT: That's the problem, not often enough. (Laughter)

BT: I did one of my wife for Metro, and we fought, so... (Laughter)

JD: I bought [my wife] a digital camera and a print camera. Let her do photos of the family.

WT: For our passports, we go to Foto-Me (laughter). No, that's funny *nga eh*, the whole week we're shooting and then on the weekend, your wife comes to you and says "Can you take a picture *naman* of your daughter?" *Parang*, it's a job, you know. (laughter) But here you are, convincing all these other people that "hey, hey, I'll take your picture!"

LP: My family were all my victims when I was learning. I photographed all of them and they're used to it. I still do the family group shots... They always act like they're suffering, like I have to pay them. In the end when they see the pictures they're happy.

What about teaching at universities?

WT: Maybe, but more like special workshops.

LP: If the students are serious, yeah, but not if they're there for easy credits which I've heard some of them do. Sometimes they're more interested if it's a workshop.

WT: There are schools now that are thinking about it seriously, like St. Benilde. They're thinking of giving a one-year diploma course, and they've been *makulit* with me.

BT: Yeah, La Salle also, I think, and Lyceum is going to start with photography big-time.

WT: Unfortunately, there's really no decent school *nga e*. Sad. Lita went to formal school, but people like Jun and I took architecture... Neal has a master's degree in photography.

LP: It would be interesting to set up a workshop where several of the professionals will teach short-term for a week or something. But for that, you need sponsorships, especially for the materials. I think a lot of young people out there would be interested. A week is a short time, it won't cost them that much, and if it's hands-on, they can actually practice what they've learned during those seven days.

What would you advise aspiring photographers? What is the one thing that they should have aside from their camera?

WT: Interest.

LP: Discipline.

JD: Yup, the hardest form of art.

BT: And also a passion for it. You cannot do anything really well if you don't want to forget everything else and focus on it.

LP: Discipline and persistence, because photography is not easy, and many people think it is.

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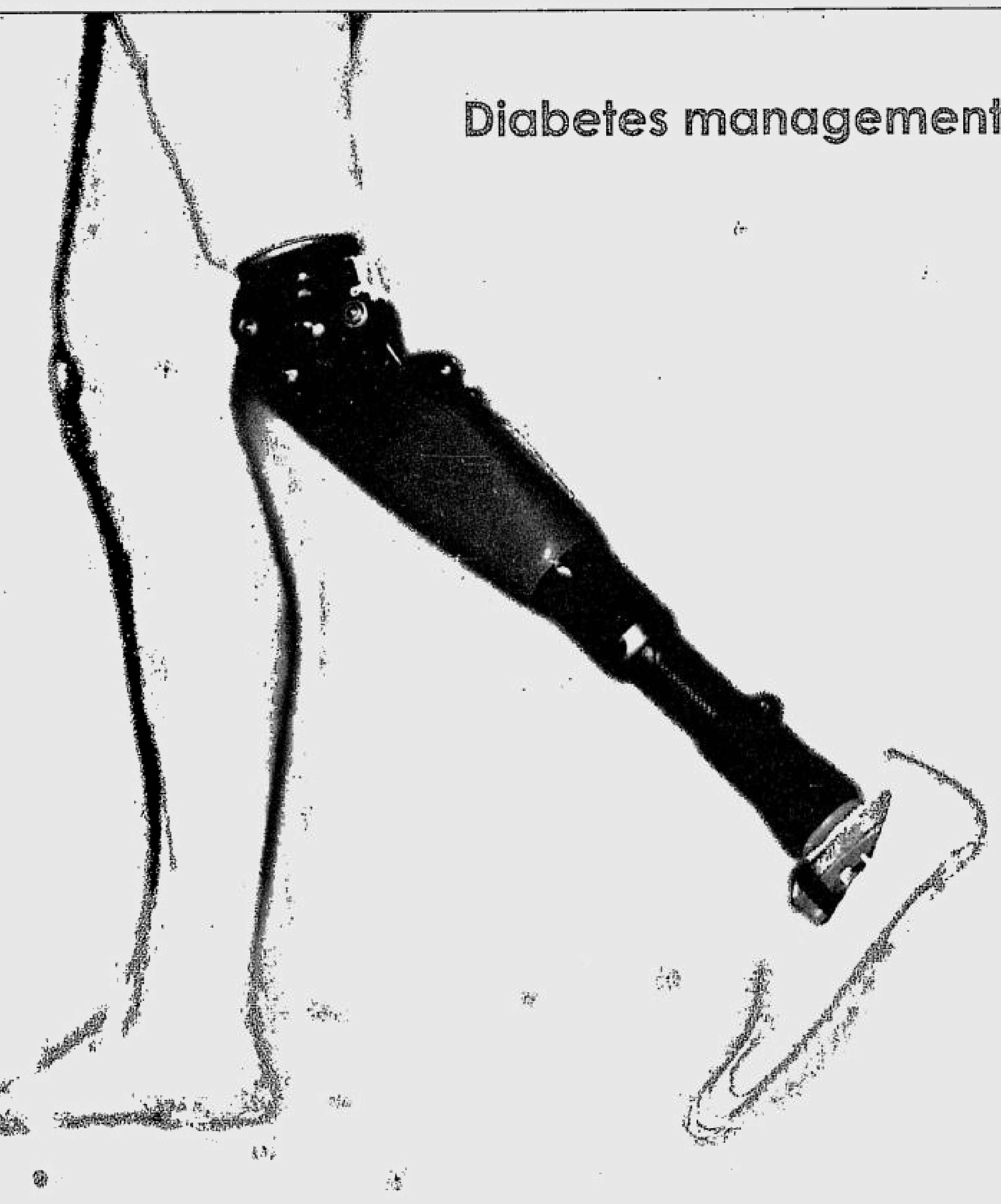

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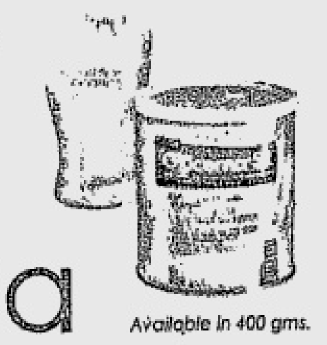

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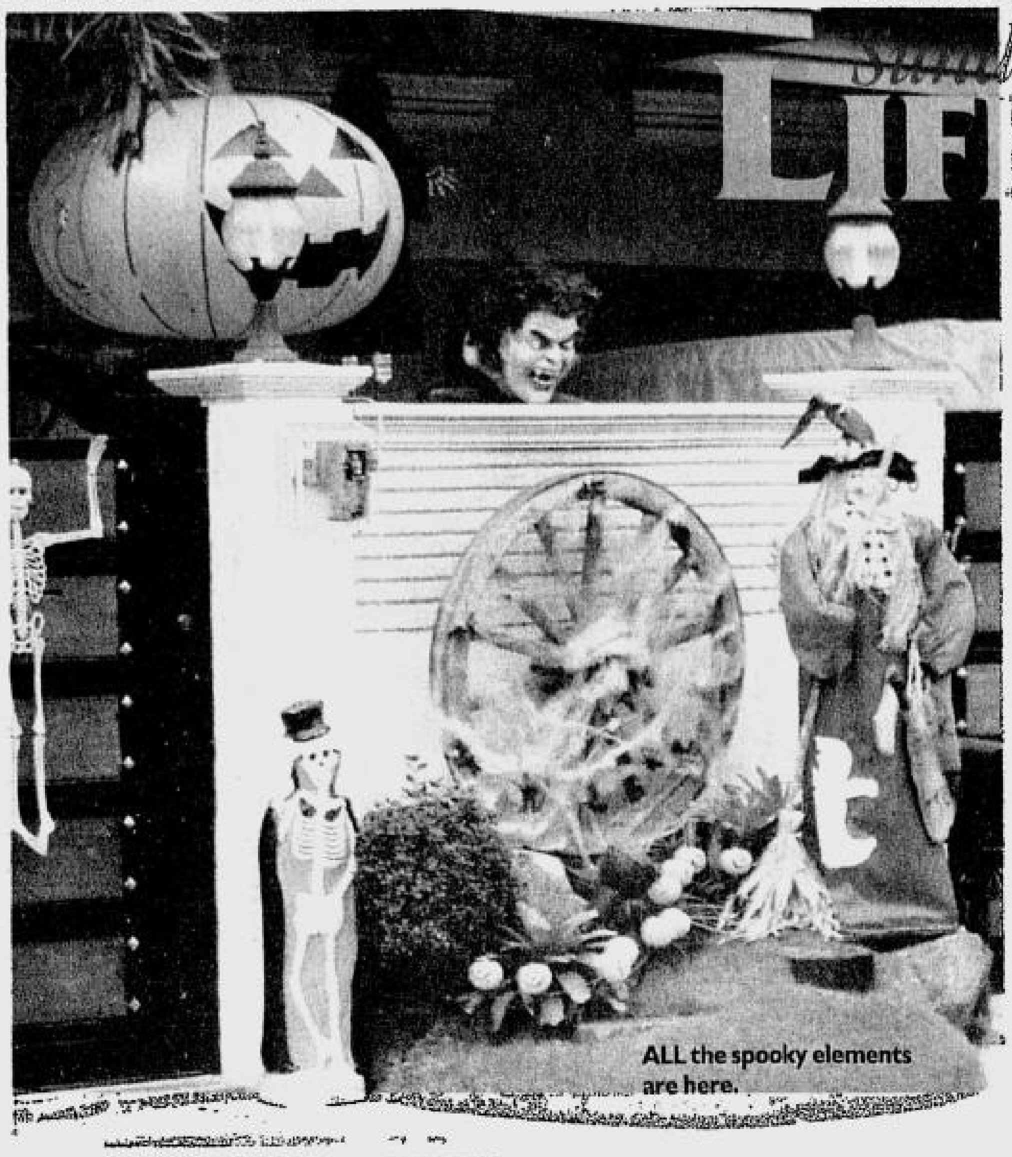
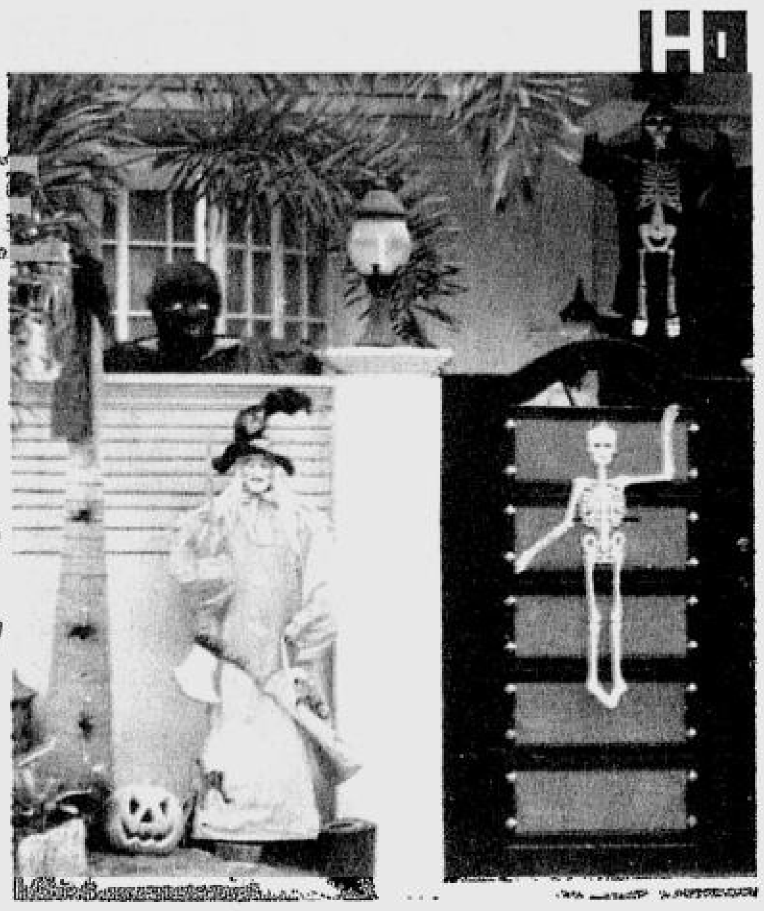
Sunday LIFESTYLE



ALL the spooky elements are here.

FRIGHT VILLE

Story on page H2



LOOK, Ma, what happened to her head?

It's the nightmare before Christmas all over again in Acropolis Village, and it's all for fun

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Shot on location at Caltex Sen. Gil Puyat ave. (formerly Buendia ave.) corner Leveriza st., Pasay City.

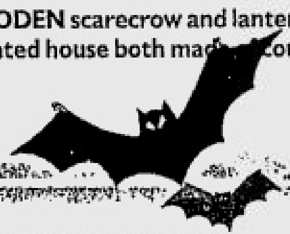
FLY away with the wicked witches of Acropolis, plus a host of other characters

ORANGE and black balloons soften the effect on the kids of an otherwise macabre decapitation scene.

WOODEN scarecrow and lantern and haunted house both made of country tin

FRIGHT VILLE

A TRAINEE at the Acropolis school of witchcraft



Photos by Chelo Banal-Formoso taken with Fuji FinePix F601Zoom

HALLOWEEN is just around the corner, and can you blame the kids who live in and around Acropolis Village in Libis, QC, for being excited?

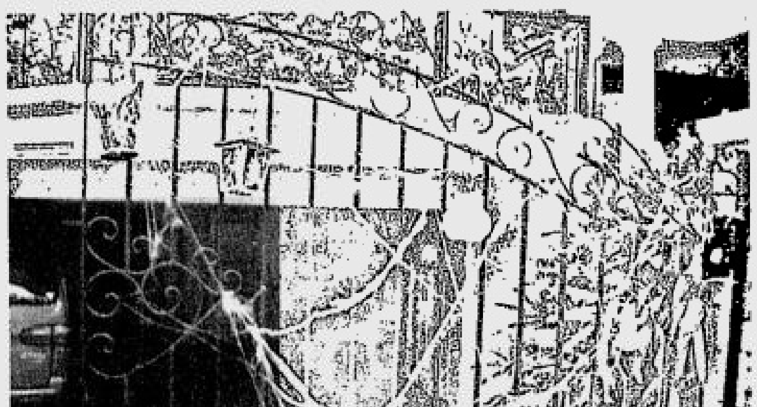
Homeowners in this exclusive neighborhood have taken pains to spruce up their homes with witches, goblins and ghouls in . anticipation of Halloween night when young children come around for their treats. Nothing too spooky as to scare the wits out of the tiny innocents though. It's all wholesome fun, a holiday of the family order.

The monsters' bash at Acropolis has been a tradition for eight years now. One suspects the decorated homes are owned by couples with very young children. Their spirited efforts draw squeals of delight in the daytime and screams of mock fright at night. They also hold a program where awards are given out for the outstanding costumes.

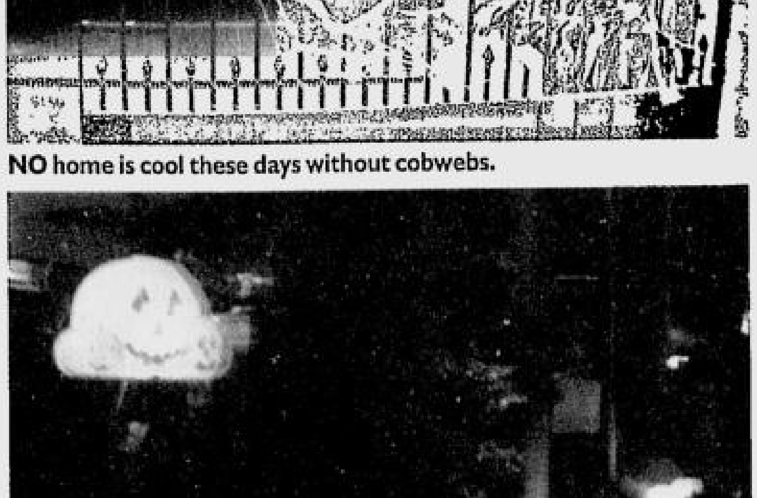
The crowd of trick-or-treaters gets bigger every year, but Acropolis villagers are not complaining. All for fun and fun for all.

LIGHTS up in Acropolis and ready for the haunting, above. Below, three witches do their bewitching session on the sidewalk.

VIEW from the balcony



NO home is cool these days without cobwebs.



Trick-or-treating in style

GET the right look for trick-or-treating this Halloween with costumes from SM Department Store and Toy Kingdom. Dress up as a wizard, fairy, pirate or any other storybook character and complete the look with suitable hats, creepy masks and pumpkin baskets.

At SM Bowling Centers and Ice Skating Rinks, customers get a loot bag for a minimum of four games played, or one game free by presenting a print ad. Skaters get a free loot bag for every purchase of an ice skating ticket, or one hour ice time free by presenting a print ad. Surprise gifts await those who come in Halloween costumes.

Be on the lookout, too, for the Nestea Blue Patrol. You can win a *merienda* coupon when heard saying "Nestea please" during weekends at SM Food Court, or seen buying a kilo of Nestea powdered milk at SM Supermarket and Hypermarket. If an MTV VJ hears you saying "Nestea please," at SM Megamall and SM City North Edsa, you can win a Nestlé gift and a chance to be an on-the-spot MTV VJ.

RFM's Moo Club members use tetra pack products to create Halloween art and images on Oct. 26 in SM City Sta Mesa.

At the RFM Haunted Playhouse, enjoy interactive games and photo ops with Moo. Haunted Playhouses will be in SM City North Edsa, SM City Sta. Mesa, SM Megamall, SM Southmall, SM City Bacoor, SM City Fairview, SM City Manila, SM City Bicutan, SM City Lucena, SM City Iloilo, SM City Cebu, SM City Cagayan de Oro and SM City Davao until Nov. 2.

On Halloween Day itself, Oct. 31, kids can go trick-or-treating the whole day at participating shops in SM malls. Kids can come in the spookiest and scariest costumes and win exciting prizes in the Halloween Costume Contest. Winners of the Funniest, Most Original, Most Creative and Scariest Costumes in each mall will receive P3,000 plus gift certificates from SM and P1,000 from Banco de Oro.

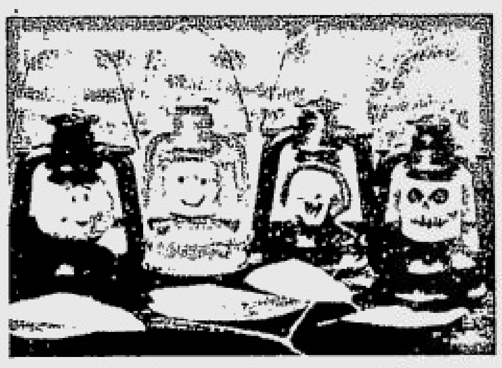
In the evening, a Masquerade Party will be held at SM Megamall Megastrip. Every minimum purchase of P150 from any Megastrip tenant earns an invite, a free drink and a night of non-stop partying.

Storyland, the indoor theme park, offers loads of treats and surprises. Ronald McDonald and the gang celebrate McDonald's Fun Day with games, activities and great fun at Storyland SM City Fairview on Oct. 26.

Kids can join Storyland's Spooky Fun Halloween Party, including a costume parade and contest, trick-or-treating, and fun games will be featured at Storyland SM City Fairivew on Oct. 26.

WITCH and wizard hats for a spellbound evening

PUMPKIN head and witch loot bag


HALLOWEEN lanterns for a fun night

Spooktacular Halloween at the mall

KIDS of all ages are invited to the Power Plant Mall on Oct. 26 and have a Spooktacular Halloween.

Come as a witch or fairy, prince or sorcerer, pixie or troll, pirate or mermaid. Dress up as Casper or Belle or even one of the seven dwarves.

A carnival with a face-painting booth, kiddie salon, puppet show, and fun games and special prizes await little imps.

And don't miss out on trick-or-treat this Halloween as you go 'round the mall to collect goodies and satisfy your sweet tooth!

But if you'd rather find out what Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde are up to this Halloween, drop by on Oct. 26, at the North Court and experience an afternoon with Mad Scientists at the Fire and Ice Show.

Foggy dry ice storms, giant beach balls floating in the air, firecracker effects. Who knows what's in store for you? Is it magic or simply mad science at work? Find out for yourself.

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Germany and Libya mark their respective national days

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

GERMAN Ambassador **Herbert** and Mme. **Micheline Jess'** National Day celebration has always been well-attended, and this year's bash was no exception.

Even the pool was covered to ensure more room for buffet tables and guests from the diplomatic corps, such as Chilean Ambassador **Carmen Lynam,** who is looking forward to her upcoming London trip; Thai Ambassador **Busba Bunnag**; Italian Ambassador **Umberto** and Sra. **Clara Colesanti**, just back from their summer hiatus; Mexican Ambassador **Enrique** and Sra. **Mariana Hubbard,** fresh from their successful Rustan's exhibit; EU ambassador and Mme. **Jan de Kok**; New Zealand Ambassador and Mme. **Terry Baker**; Argentine Ambassador **Mario** and Sra. **Sylvia Schuff**; and Venezuelan Ambassador **Milena Santana Ramirez,** who has just completed her MBA.

Ambassador Ramirez was the keynote speaker as well at the All Nation Women's Group (ANWG) of the YWCA of Manila Inc., headed by president **Baby Ortiz.**

Seen enjoying Mandarin's sumptuous fare during the affair were Today's **Monchet Locsin** and **Glenn Gale,** who insisted they belong to Manila's hungriest.

Also spotted were **Paz Yuchengco,** Consuls **Evie Costa** and **Fortune Ledesma, Al** and **Nena Casimiro, Louie** and Consul **Mellie Ablaza, Oskie Lopez** and **Toting del Rosario.**

* * *

Libyan Ambassador Dr. **Salem Adam** graciously hosted an elegant reception celebrating his country's national day at Hotel Inter-Con's ballroom, where the guests enjoyed Middle Eastern delicacies such as hummus, huge slabs of grilled lamb, Kabsa, tabbouleh and, of course, marvelous dessert tables of honey-coated tarts and cakes.

We ran into **Margie Floirendo,** all excited at her production of "Late Night Catechism," with **Bibot Amador** and **Baby Barredo** alternating as wacky nuns.

There were also **Gemma Araneta,** fetching in a Malaysian costume; Mme. **Imelda Marcos,** whose taste in jewelry will never cease to amaze us, happily chatting with one and all; and .Portuguese Ambassador **Joao da Silva,** who was very happy with Rustan's showcase of Portuguese products, an upcoming book launch and other events to celebrate the Portuguese national day.

For the lucky ones who dropped by Rustan's Filipiniana department the week of Sept. 15, two weavers, **Bernadette Ofung** and **Hilda Bangaw** from South Cotabato, representing the Gamaba awardees of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, were there to greet them.

This worthwhile project of the commission to preserve native crafts deserves the kind of support that the Tantocos of Rustan's, especially **Marilen T. Valbuena,** gave them in celebration of Filipino Heritage Month.

A pity, though, that there were not enough of these indigenous products to buy.

* * *

Our apologies to Minister Counsellor **Zakiah Awang** for identifying her as the spouse of Malaysian Ambassador **Mohamed Taufik.** A further correction: the Malaysian Senate president's name is spelled **Abdul Hamid Pawanteh.**

> These festivities have always been well-attended, and this year was no exception

FOREIGN Affairs Undersecretary Franklin Ebdalin, German Ambassador Herbert Jess and Venezuelan Ambassador Milena Ramirez

ARGENTINE Ambassador Mario and Sylvia Schuff

AUSTRALIAN Ambassador Ruth Pearce and Portuguese Ambassador Joao da Silva

LIBYAN Ambassador Dr. Salem Adams

MALAYSIAN Ambassador Noor Taufik

THAI Ambassador Busba Bunnag

SINGAPOREAN Ambassador Lim Keng Hua

CLARA Colesanti, Paz Yuchengco and Consul Evie Costa

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Sunday LifeStyle

"LA NUIT DAVID." Amparito Lhuillier presents certificates to David Ugarte and Debby Enriquez, joined in by Michel Lhuillier and Teresing Mendezona.

David, king of French dinners

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

DAVID Ugarte recently hosted dinner a la Francaise for La Chaine des Rotisseurs (Cebu chapter).

It was called—what else?—"La Nuit David," and held—where else?—at his specialty restaurant, David's.

Debby Enriquez, with her vaunted expertise for these things, assisted in the planning, with great results. Among these: an outpouring of congratulations from **Michel** and **Amparito Lhuillier**, she as the head of La Chaine in Cebu, he as top man of L'Ordre Mondial des Gourmets des Degustateurs in these shores.

David's is a small restaurant, and it was booked solid for this event weeks in advance.

Champagne and petit canapes were served to guests as they started streaming in. Soon enough everyone was asked to take their assigned seats for the feast to begin.

First on the menu card was a portion of cauliflower purée topped by Beluga caviar. This was followed by a medallion of lobster over broccoli foam flavored with truffle oil.

The pigeon broth with a crêpe of foie gras was rich, and the Dayap sorbet that came after was a perfect prelude to the main course: rack of venison with raspberry reduction.

French-style salad came last—romaine lettuce with slices of crispy pear and walnuts. Finally, dinner ended with a cheese board and succulent chocolate monogram that had slivered almonds.

Chateau living

Shortly after, Michel and Amparito left for Paris, to spend her birthday and tour

DAVID/ 13

AROMATHERAPY - MAKING SENSE OUT OF SCENTS

Try rubbing a garlic clove on the bottom of your foot. In a few minutes, you will be able to detect garlic on your breath. This means that the pungent oil of garlic has penetrated through your skin, has entered your bloodstream and has traveled to your mouth, all in a matter of minutes

Of course none of us want to smell like garlic. Wouldn't you rather smell like lavender? Or chamomile? Or grapefruit? If you would, then that's thanks to the growing popularity of aromatherapy. Aromatherapy is the art and science of using essential oils from plants to relax, balance and rejuvenate the body, mind and spirit. Or, simply, it is the achievement of over-all well being through the use of scents.

But why this urge to achieve wellness all of a sudden, especially among women? Because today, women's lives are more stressful and hectic. They are now a force to reckon with even in the workplace. That's why they need to look and feel good about themselves. Aromatherapy can give them just that - especially now that it comes in a bottle of shampoo with conditioner!

New Palmolive Aromatherapy Shampoo with Conditioner is the first hair care line that contains the power of aromatherapy. It has an Anti-Stress variant that contains the essential oils of lavender, lemongrass and honey to relax and calm you down. And it has an Energy variant which contains green tea, grapefruit and honey to perk you up and energize you.

And because all Palmolive products deliver great results, these essential oils give hair extra shine and 70% more softness. With Palmolive Aromatherapy, it's like hitting two birds with one stone. It won't just make you feel good, it'll also make you look good!

Palmolive Aromatherapy isn't just for your hair, it's also for your entire body. It has a skin care line consisting of Shower Gel and Talc to make your skin softer, smoother and smelling great.

The Energy variant contains essential oils of green tea, mandarin and ginger which are great for toning the skin. And the Anti-Stress variant has Lavender, Patchouli and Ylang-Ylang to give you an aura of peace and tranquility.

So breathe in the aroma of new Palmolive Aromatherapy and feel the relaxation in your mind, body and hair. After all, you deserve it!

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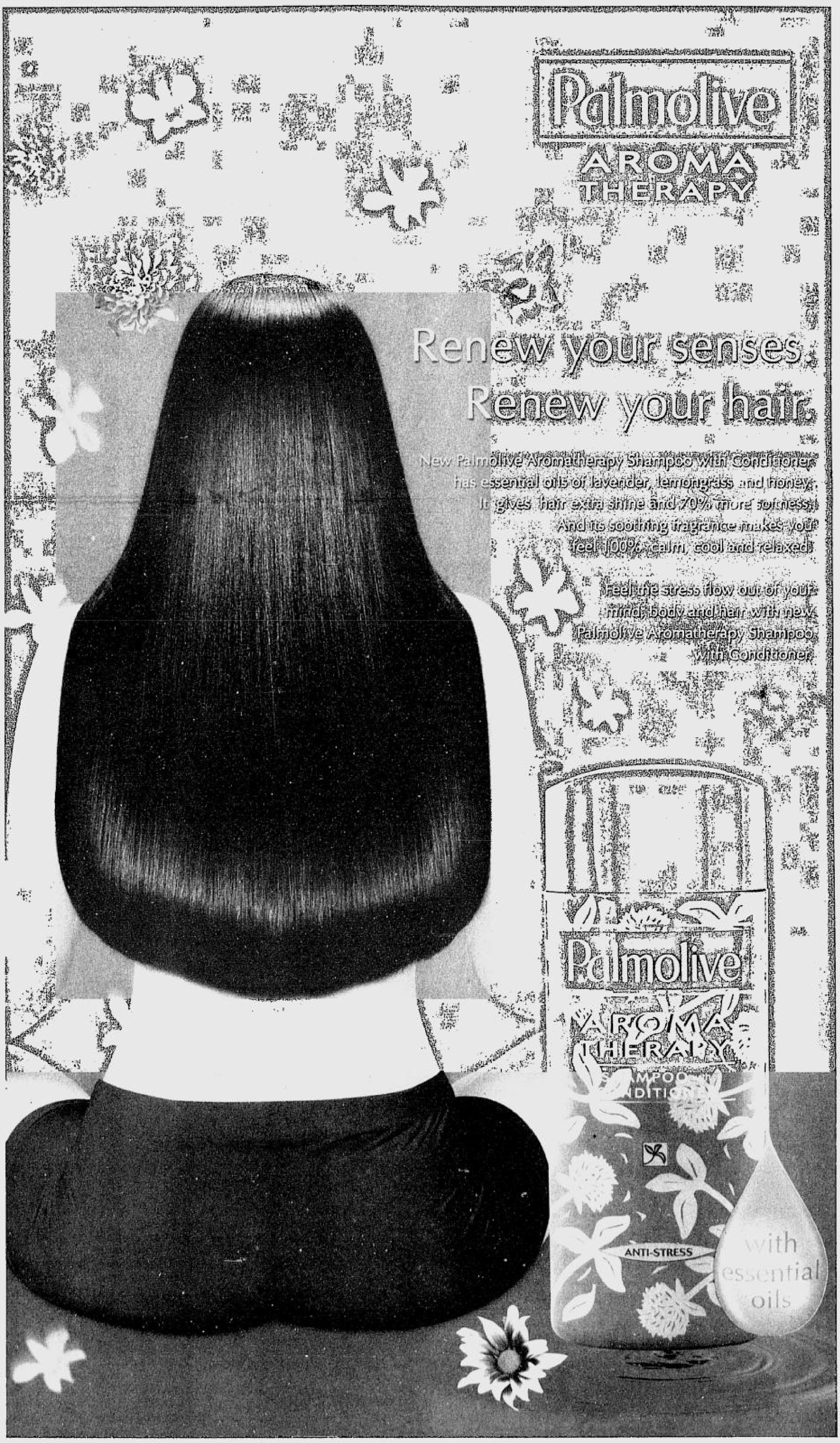

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

TRAVEL

Editor Rosario A. Garcellano

Exciting, exhausting Hong Kong

SPARKLING city lights

EDWIN BACASMAS

By Eduardo M. Enriquez
Contributor

IMAGINE the fanciest mall in Makati and expand it into a city.

Those were the words a friend used to give me an idea of what I should expect. And based on my first visit to the former British crown colony, I can say she was right in more than a few ways.

From the Hong Kong International Airport on Lantau Island, I take the Airport Express to the final station at Central District. The railway line is a cushy, comfy introduction to the Special Administrative Region, impressive with its business class quality.

Along with the islet of Tsing Yi, the 23-minute ride traverses all three of Hong Kong's islands—Lantau, Kowloon and Hong Kong. I spend half of the ride flipping channels on the video screen affixed to the back of the seat in front of me. The rest of the journey is spent admiring the view outside.

Impressive infrastructure is juxtaposed with wide, forested areas. I also see clean bays and am reminded of the English translation of Hong Kong: "Fragrant Harbor."

I am in Hong Kong for a voluntary internship in an international animal-rights organization. Although much of my month-long stay is spent indoors, making telephone calls and encoding information into a digital database, I still get many opportunities to check out Hong Kong, especially the dynamic and colorful urban scene.

I am, after all, based in Central—Hong Kong's vibrant, trendy equivalent of Makati.

Business hub

Aptly named, Central is Hong Kong's undisputed business hub. Most banks and multinational companies are located here. Being the heart of Hong Kong's commercial activities, the streets and sidewalks of Central are perpetually busy with the footsteps of all types, from local market vendors to corporate expatriates, from domestic helpers to mainland tourists.

The activity at Central takes on a decidedly different mood after sunset. After a long day of working/sightseeing/shopping, the district's neon lights are switched on, attracting merrymakers like moths to a flame.

If you love to party, your visit to Hong Kong would be sorely incomplete without a visit to Central's party central, Lan Kwai Fong (LKF).

Packed with local and foreign bars, nightclubs and restaurants, LKF is a cobble-stoned area that was a hawkers' outpost before World War II. It is made up of D'Aguilar Street, Lan Kwai Fong and Wo On Lane. It isn't difficult to imagine that the area extends to Wellington and Wyndham streets, all the way up to the Fringe Club, a colonial building (circa 1913) that was formerly used as a cold-storage warehouse. Now well-known for its artistic activities, the Fringe Club also boasts a bar, theaters, galleries and a rooftop restaurant that often features an all-you-can-eat vegetarian buffet.

Yes, vegan and vegetarian options prove no problem to come by over here. Aside from its large Buddhist population, Hong Kong was, from 1842 to 1997, a British colony, hence its veg-friendly quality.

Catering to the diversity of Hong Kong's multinational population is also a determining factor in why international cuisine abounds. Among others, there are Indian, Thai, Japanese, Mediterranean, Italian, Mexican, Nepalese, and of course, British and Chinese. Whatever you're in the mood for, there is always a slew of dining choices to whet your appetite.

Hippie hangout

Taking a break from work one day, I board a ferry from Pier 6 in Central and head to bohemian Lamma, the archipelago's third largest island.

Known as an artist and hippie hangout, Lamma is also a beach resort. Cars are not allowed here. But dogs are happily welcome, and I see them in all shapes and sizes, accompanied by their equally diverse human companions.

Lush and green, it's a great, quirky place to go to, especially if you need a break from the bustle of the city. (Don't be fooled, though. You'd be extremely lucky if you went to Lamma and saw only a few visitors.)

I have lunch at the Bookworm Café, a vegetarian place run by a British couple who have made Lamma Island their home. Many diners tend to linger in the café, perhaps because of the delicious meat-free menu options, or the choice of books that crowd the walls, or the cozy atmosphere, or all of the above.

At one point I eavesdrop on an Irish woman discussing Buddhism with her companions at the table behind me.

Lamma's most popular beach, at Hung Shing Ye, although clean and with good facilities, is ruined by the sight of a huge power station pumping out fumes on the other side of the island.

Compared to the many gorgeous Philippine beaches I've seen, I'm tempted to refer to the island as Lame-Ah. Then again, I've also seen beaches back home that are shamefully, horrifically filthy. By my standards, the beaches in Hong Kong may be somewhat boring, but at least the government sees that they maintain an acceptable level of (at least superficial) cleanliness.

Stanley village

On my last day in Hong Kong, I check in my bags at the Airport Express terminal (also located in Central), and hurry to meet up with some friends who have offered to show me the village of Stanley in the Southern District. (The area's English name is a tribute to Lord Edward Geoffrey Smith Stanley, the 19th-century British secretary of state for war and the colonies.)

Despite my usual disinclination to be labeled or recognized as a tourist, I am delighted to board a Hong Kong double-deck bus for the trip and sit right in front at the upper deck. My companions point out the sights and give me more information regarding the city, its culture and people.

After we are well past city limits, we pass Deep Water Bay, and then Repulse Bay. On the side of a mountain is an apartment building with a large square hole in the middle. It looks like a window, and one of my companions informs me that it was intentionally built for the benefit of the dragon that is believed to reside in the mountain.

The weather is kind to us, and my first visit to Stanley is bathed in warm sunshine.

Spotting Stanley Market, I am even more grateful to my companions for bringing me here. Rows and rows of stalls, selling a great variety of items, present me with endless choices of *pasalubong* for the loved ones back home.

One of my friends, a man from Wisconsin who has spent several years in China, shows off his Putonghua (Mandarin) skills by haggling with vendors.

Mission accomplished, we walk leisurely past the numerous seaside restaurants and bars, checking out the rest of Stanley, before catching a cab back to Central. I thank my friends for their hospitality and we part ways.

Then I head to the Airport Express terminal, which will return me to the airport. The train glides smoothly along and I look forward to being back with my family at home. After a stress-free day with friends, I am high with the relief of experiencing a pleasant, relaxing end to my stay in exciting, exhausting Hong Kong.

Horse-drawn sleigh and log fire included

IF you're dreaming of a "White Christmas," or if you just want to play in the snow or look at it through a window, Canada is the place for you this Christmas (or any time until about the middle of April).

Pretty much all the resorts and major hotels across Canada offer Christmas dinner complete with turkey, Santa Claus, carol singing, party games and all the holiday trimmings.

Winter resorts know that not everyone skis or snow-boards, so they provide plenty of other things to do on the snow. Most resorts will have horse-drawn sleigh rides, warm blankets provided. If you can walk, you can snowshoe—and boy, doesn't it give you an appetite.

And if you can snowshoe, you can also ski cross country! There's nothing quite like a gentle walk or glide through the silent, snow-laden woods on a still, crisp winter morning—hot cocoa from a flask in a glistening glade, with a bowl of hot soup waiting by a log fire back at the lodge!

Many Canadians—kids of all ages—look forward to winter and treat the arrival of the snow as an excuse to have fun. "Canucks" can skate almost as soon as they can walk and are happy to show visitors just how easy it is.

For the more adventurous, there are dogsled trips for an hour, a day or longer (you can even stay overnight in a wigwam). Try ice fishing from little huts towed out onto frozen lakes and rivers as soon as the freeze is thick enough.

Curling? It's lawn bowling on ice. Enthusiasts are early to polish the weighty granite "stones" they slide and chase from one end of the rink to the other.

Wherever there is a pond, lake, river or canal—as soon as Jack Frost bites—there is an ice skating rink. If there is ice, there is hockey, and if there is hockey, there is excitement!

From the rough and tumble of the National Hockey League to the kiddies' Pea Wee league on a frozen school playground, there will always be a game worth watching. Ottawa's Rideau Canal becomes the world's longest ice skating rink in winter!

The "Train of a Million Christmas trees"—the two-day Rocky Mountaineer Railtours through the Canadian Rockies from Vancouver to Banff—presents maximum mountain snowscape in one of the world's great rail experiences. And they have a Christmas train.

Banff is a Christmas card alive with colored lights, shopping, bonhomie and reindeer (caribou) wandering the parks. VIA Rail operates the "Snow Train" along the northern line to the mountain community of Jasper with its nearby Ice Canyon walk.

The cities bustle with winter activities. The plazas are flooded and frozen, ice on the ponds and canals is groomed, and folks skate under the stars to the strains of a Strauss waltz.

Festivals and winter carnivals enliven the weekends with ice sculptures, boat races across frozen rivers, and parades.

THE FAIRMONT Chateau at Lake Louise in Alberta

TRAVEL ALBERTA

In Quebec there is even an Ice Hotel where your bed is a block of ice and the frozen rainbow over Niagara Falls during the Festival of Lights is spectacular.

Somewhere in Canada there's a cozy fireplace, a Christmas tree, good cheer and Canadian fellowship. Just because you don't ski or snow-board is no reason to miss out.

From train rides to sleigh rides, to shopping in underground malls or to just pampering yourself in the spa, there is much, much more to a Canadian winter.

Richard Pennick

For more information on winter in Canada go to http://www.canada.co.nz and click on the flag of your choice.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Halloween party

ISLAND Cove Resort and Leisure Park in Kawit, Cavite, invites kids to a Halloween party starting at 3:30 p.m. at its Tejeros Garden.

"Halloween Treats (No Tricks!)" features games and prizes, face painting, a best-costume contest and free goodies for everyone. Kids will also get to meet their favorite fairy tale characters like Thumbelina, Little Match Girl and Tin Soldier.

Registration is free to all hotel guests and day visitors.

For inquiries, call (02) 810-3718, 810-3764, (046) 434-0210, or 434-5846, text 0916-720-3339, or e-mail inquiry@islandcovephil.com.

Flying smart

NORTHWEST Airlines has launched new print, TV, Internet, and outdoor advertising highlighting its strengths, products and services.

All of the ads showcase the airline's customer service technology, worldwide scope, competitive fares, efficient airports, new aircraft and other improvements recently made, such as its new World Business Class seat, and end with the message, "Now you're flying smart."

The ads feature the new corporate identity and the silver, red and black colors first shown with the unveiling of Northwest's new livery in April, as well as new visuals and audio consistent with its global presence.

Northwest is the world's fourth largest airline, with hubs at Detroit; Minneapolis/St. Paul, Memphis, Tokyo and Amsterdam, and about 1,500 daily departures.

With its travel partners, it serves nearly 750 cities in almost 120 countries on six continents. In 2002, consumers worldwide recognized its efforts to make travel easier.

For more information, visit www.nwa.com.

KrisFlyer benefits

STARTING tomorrow, Singapore Airlines' frequent flyer program, KrisFlyer, is giving members more benefits and enhanced services such as one-way award redemptions and the ability to purchase "top-up" miles.

The additional features are the result of an extensive customer research survey conducted at the end of last year.

KrisFlyer members will be able to enjoy one-way award redemptions to any destination, for 70 percent of the miles required for the equivalent return journey.

A new category of unrestricted awards for first and Raffles (business) class travel will offer greater award redemption choices, extended validity and two free stopovers per round trip.

Additional stopovers can now be redeemed for just 10,000 miles per stopover, irrespective of class of travel, instead of the usual 15,000, 25,000 and 40,000 miles required for economy, Raffles and first class awards, respectively.

Improved award charts will include more flight zones—23 against the existing 12—to ensure that each region is more accurately represented.

Members who do not have sufficient KrisFlyer miles to redeem for a particular award ticket can now top-up their accounts by purchasing up to 30 percent of the required miles with cash. Each block of 1,000 KrisFlyer miles costs US$40.

For more details, visit www.krisflyer.com.

TALISAY City First Lady Norma Gillas with Marina Codina

MYRA Gonzalez y Osmeña and Chona Bernad

KATHY and Chris Darza

MIKEL and Claudine Ugarte

MARGIE Lhuillier and Baby Schaap do the Hula Rock aboard the Free Spirit.

David, king of French dinners

From page I1

Bordeaux with their daughters and their respective spouses—**Yvette** and **Franck Warnod** who reside in Paris, and **Monique** and **Tom Bugbee** who took a well-deserved vacation from the US fashion scene.

The Lhuillier family was billeted in a chateau, and from there went on to visit five other chateaux and their corresponding vineyards in as many days.

Meanwhile, in Cebu, La Chaine is planning an informal dinner with Tony Lozada hosting at Tequila Joe's on Oct. 30.

Margaritas will be served starting 7 p.m., and the menu will consist of Mandarin Chicken Salad, Blackened Lapu-Lapu, My Baby's Back Ribs and The Bomb.

The next La Chaine dinner after this will be a black-tie affair to celebrate its anniversary on Dec. 10 at Shangri-La Mactan.

> True to form, the dinner was called 'La Nuit David' and was held at his specialty restaurant, David's

Cruisin' time

Margie Lhuillier also took off for Hong Kong to celebrate her birthday with her children—**Chris** and **Kathy Darza** and **Claudine** and **Mikel Ugarte**.

But before she left, she burned the phone lines inviting a group of "fun, fun" people to a cruise the next weekend aboard her yacht, the Free Spirit.

Come in Hawaiian prints, she said, and everyone did just that.

The yacht was supposed to set sail before sundown, but there was a slight delay because of the limited wine supply.

"No problem," texted **Amadeo Chiongbian**, "I'll pick it up along the way." Cheers greeted him when he appeared at the pier.

By now everyone was happy, as sorbet-like margaritas are known to make anyone feel that way, and the Free Spirit sailed down the Cebu channel with the sun slipping below the horizon.

It began to drizzle, and some opted to go to the covered area. But incredibly, others chose to remain, "singing and dancing in the rain," as that old ditty goes.

Music on board was mostly Hawaiian, of course, at times sung by those who knew the lyrics.

But there were disco tunes as well. The Free Spirit was so stable and well-built that it didn't rock at all. But we did, all night!

The margaritas did not run out. Neither did the melba toast to dip into bacalao, crushed olives, or the creamiest pâté de foie gras ever.

Margie has since left for her Las Vegas home, and will probably be back for Christmas.

The **Travel Saver Inc.** offers package tours to our country's major tourist destinations such as CORDILLERA ADVENTURE to BANAUE, BANGA-AN, BONTOC & SAGADA, or the ILOCOS HERITAGE TOUR that will visit Vigan, Batac, Sarrat, Paoay, Laoag, & Pagudpud, or an Eco-Tour of BOHOL with CEBU all set for *3D & 2N* package on 31 Oct.-02 Nov. 2003.
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For further details, please call Cel#0918-5281511, or 0916-3963963 or Tel. 472-5569.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone HOLLOW BEIN'

ACROSS
1 Tide type
5 Microbe
9 Planned a burglary
14 Identical
18 — mater
19 Soothing plant
20 Lacking standards
22 Dictator
23 Downtown miasma
24 Rigatoni relative
25 Snoopy, for one
26 Caroline of "Sabrina"
27 Start of a joke
31 Movie piglet
32 Yalie
33 Mr. Fudd
36 — dragon
39 Parisian pal
41 Seasons firewood
45 Gray matter?
46 Heed
47 Burn slightly
48 Double boiler part
50 Forest female
51 Cambodia's Lon —
52 Part 2 of joke
57 Obtain
58 — -Locka, FL
59 Bela —
60 88 Down, for one
64 Social climbers
66 Mazda model
69 "I could — horse!"
70 "Tiny Bubbles" singer
73 Part 3 of joke
76 Seafood selection
77 Pavarotti piece
78 Madrid month
79 Ship crane
81 Litter
84 Two-spot
87 Prohibit
88 TV's "You — Your Life"
91 Part 4 of joke
95 Poison —
96 Cul-de- —
99 Quiet partner?
100 — carolene
101 Seize
102 Spud state
104 Cat calls?
106 Poetic preposition
107 Nursery furniture
109 Not as common
110 Part of A&P
112 Letters
113 End of joke
123 Grey of "Cabaret"
125 Tremble
126 Got off
127 Sociologist Shere
128 Proficient
129 Salon supplies
130 Actress Skye
131 Pay to play
132 Bracelet bit
133 Have a feeling
134 — -do-well
135 Last name in fashion

DOWN
1 Highflying agcy.
2 New Haven hardwoods
3 Out of control
4 Hairdo
5 Room with a view?
6 The chosen few
7 Printing process
8 Chow —
9 Plot
10 "Vanity Fair" character
11 Drench
12 Units of work
13 Spanish surrealist
14 A walk in the park
15 Red-faced
16 West of Hollywood
17 Paleozoic —
21 Actor Cariou
28 Youngster
29 Odd fellow
30 Cut canines
34 Inflatable item?
35 Bread or booze
36 Hong —
37 Bassoon relative
38 Go soft
39 "Gotcha!"
40 Herbie of jazz
42 Balm of —
43 Photographer's abbr.
44 Radiator noise
47 Buoyant Buster
49 Catchall abbr.
52 Pro — (free)
53 Army addr.
54 Break
55 Limerick's land
56 Vote in
61 Pine product
62 L.A. judge
63 No gentleman
64 Lamb Chop's Lewis
65 Laura — Giacomo
67 Kennedy or Cassidy
68 Sheik spot
70 Pop
71 Get a lode of this
72 Pen part
74 Changed plans
75 "— bien!"
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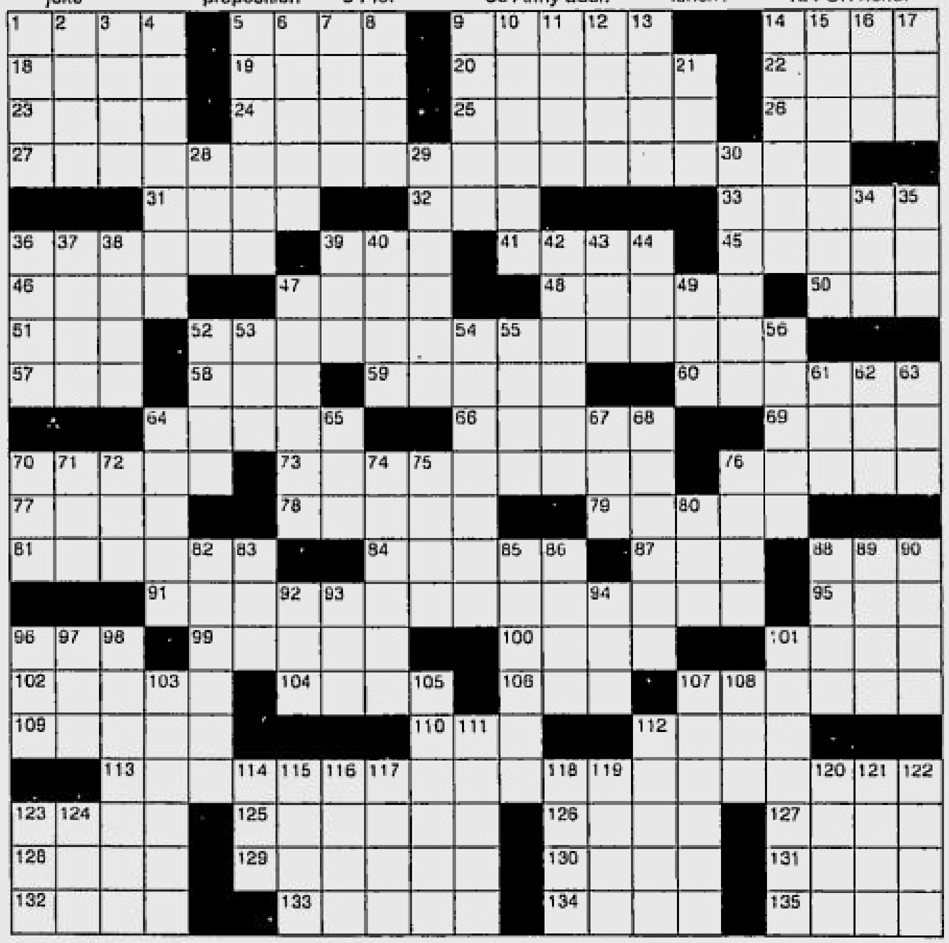

answer on pageH3

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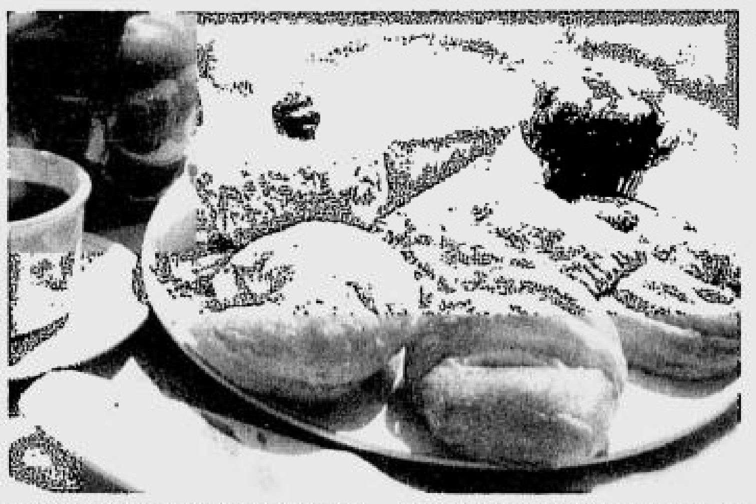
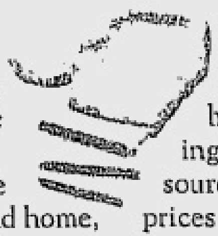
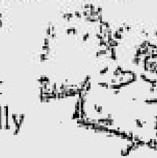
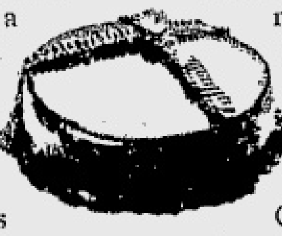
Conditions: Rooms are subject to availability. Rate applies to Superior Room. Prior reservation is advised. Not to be combined with other promotions. Applies to local residents and expatriates and not to group or corporate bookings. Promo valid from October 31 to November 10. Second night or second room does not include breakfast and may not be converted to cash equivalent or gift certificate. Other conditions apply









Not just Breakfast

Imagine freshly brewed coffee, hot, thick and aromatic; the sizzle of fried bacon and eggs sliding off the pan and onto a plate; the smell of oven-fresh muffins drifting into your bedroom, waking you up quicker than an alarm clock can.

Picture-perfect breakfasts like these only seem to belong to either coffee commercials or well-staffed households. Most city slickers wake up and grab whatever leftovers there are in the kitchen and call it breakfast. It's hardly nutritious—but imagine the dilemma of working moms who have to spend even more time filling up their kids' lunch packs with healthy food.

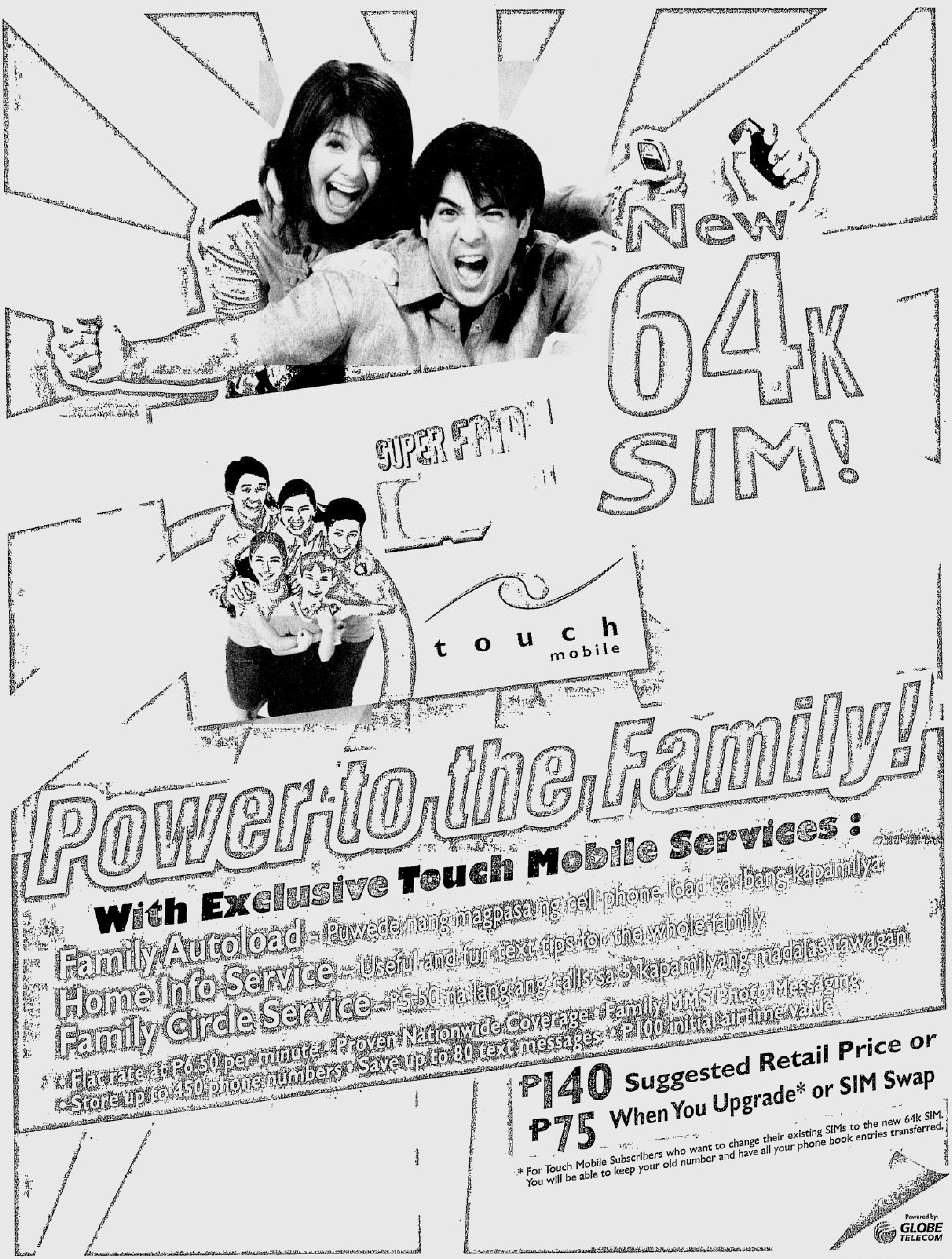
Everyone deserves a better way to start their day!

Inspired by this growing need for healthy and great-tasting baked items for breakfast and power-snacking, Fressan Bakery opened in early 2002. Fressan's roots started with Dr. Jules Fressan, a businessman who did a great deal of travelling (and eating) before settling in our own shores. His travels gave him a good deal of gastronomical exposure of the different countries he visited. Lured by the beauty of our native country, he made the Philippines his second home, bringing with him his personal recipes of delicious baked goodies.

Today, the legacy of great and healthy cakes, breads and pastries is kept alive by Mr. Enrique Ubando, Commissary Director.

"My responsibility is to ensure that the quality of the goods our customers place on their tables is as fresh as when they got off the ovens. Although we have a lot of imported ingredients, we try to source locally to keep our prices competitive and to better suit the Filipino palate. We try to stay as close to the flavors of the original recipe as possible. We have a second production branch in Manila that serves Fressan Bakery's growing chain of stores. Picture having to make a dozen kinds of muffins, and more assortment of filled buns, cakes and breads. How is that for variety?"

Today Fressan Bakery is becoming known for their delicious, oven-fresh muffins, soft buns, moist cakes, and hearty breads—all at surprisingly affordable prices. Need a perk-me-up power snack? Why not try a Fressan Butterscotch Muffin? Thinking of giving a new twist to your children's baon? Try some of Fressan's delicious buns, with savory fillings —Pork Asado, Chicken ala King, Corned Beef and Pata Tim to name a few. To date, Fressan has a total of 17 stores and mall carts spread all over selected parts of Metro Manila and nearby provinces. Now more and more people are discovering that healthy and delicious food need not be hard to come by, thanks to Fressan Bakery. So reward yourself - visit their Robinson's Galleria or Malate branch and try Dr. Fressan's specialties with a refreshing glass of Lipton Ice Tea! Advt.



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Touch Mobile Offers Sim Upgrade Program

With the introduction of its new high-powered Super Family 64k SIM, existing Touch Mobile subscribers can now upgrade their SIM cards for only P75.

Customers simply have to visit any Globe Telecom Business Center nationwide and selected Touch Mobile mall booths where they will be guided through a simple and quick process. This will allow them to keep their old mobile number, their existing phonebook memory, and their saved text messages on their old SIM.

Upgraded SIM packs will not contain any pre-loaded airtime. Instead, the remaining peso balance on their old SIM will be transferred to their new SIM.

Regularly priced at P140, the new Touch Mobile Super Family 64k SIM pack is loaded with the best features that power up the subscriber's handset. It comes with a P100 free airtime value and can store up to 80 text messages and 450 phonebook entries.

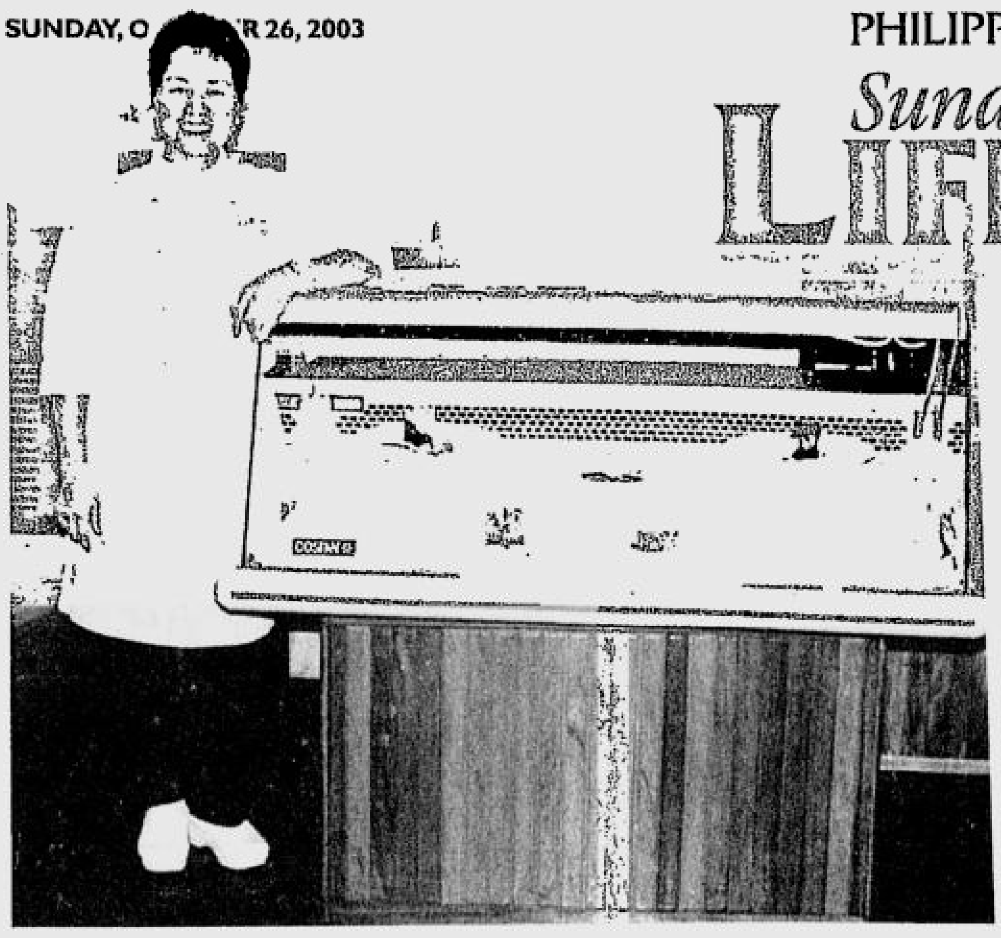
On top of its regular voice value-added services that have become a hit among families, the new Touch Mobile 64k SIM allows subscribers access to its exclusive services such as the Family Autoload and Home Info text service.

The Family Autoload allows a subscriber to pass on prepaid credits over the air to other Touch Mobile users in the family, making reloading more convenient and hassle-free.

With the Home Info text service, subscribers have ready access to family-related services and information on family care, entertainment, recipes, daily guide, first aid, news and information, job openings, directory, fun and games, and messaging.

Touch Mobile's 64k SIM also offers multimedia messaging service that allows subscribers to send pictures to other multimedia messaging service-capable phones.

Sunday LIFESTYLE
Weddings Engagements



CHEF Jessie Sincioco beside her pastry chiller at Le Soufflé Bistro

Tasteful, taste-filled way to a *wedding banquet*

Rather than lose sleep over her entourage's color motif, a bride-to-be should focus on the menu to make her big day memorable

By Alexandra Mercado
Contributor

SOCIAL norms dictate that a polite wedding guest eat rubber steak or gelatinous chocolate mousse in silence. But in my food-obsessed mind, the memory of a lousy meal will eclipse even the most stunning gowns, the prettiest flower arrangements and the most poignant speeches. Take note of that, brides. Don't stress yourself out over the color scheme—focus on the menu.

A friend who is a veteran of many receptions with inedible food made it her prime goal to make sure that her own wedding banquet would have great food.

Her first decision was to scrap all hotels as possible wedding venues. There are good reasons to have a wedding in a hotel. You may want to impress your bride's family that you aren't scrimping to have a good wedding. You may want to have a venue that guests can easily locate.

But whatever the case is, you can't really count on gourmet food. There is something about preparing a meal for 200 people and more that throws hotel kitchens out of kilter. It doesn't matter how many times they have done it before. The real thing is nothing like the little tasting menu they did for the eager bride and groom a few months earlier.

To be fair, it is difficult to give all 250-plus guests a plated dish of prime rib within 10 minutes of each other and still expect each cut to be tender and hot at the same time.

My friend opted to go the restaurant route and her first choice was Le Soufflé. Her tasting dinner was held six months before the big day so we would have ample time to revise her menu as we saw fit. Le Soufflé's chef/partner Jessie Sincioco sat with us through most of the meal, explaining each dish and welcoming all of our "suggested revisions" to each dish. No chef-diva attitude here!

Starters

Starters for the day were a warm calamari salad, piled on top of long strips of herb garlic bread. The calamari was done to the perfect point of tenderness (overcook it and you have rubber bands) and was prepared so simply I could practically taste the saltiness of the sea in every bite.

The other starter was a Mediterranean salad with balsamic vinaigrette. The beauty of this dish lies in the freshness and variety of the greens and this jumble of rocket lettuce, arugula, endives and broccoli did not fail me. We did note that the salad lacked balance—something to offset the tartness of the balsamic and the mild bitterness of the greens. Jessie clarified that the salad regularly came with feta cheese but they were all out of feta that day. We sprinkled some salt on the greens to approximate the salty Greek cheese and it kind of worked tastewise. Visually, the whiteness of the feta would have done a lot for presentation.

I was disappointed to note my friend had not included the Tessie Tomas salad on her list. This is a Le Soufflé signature dish made for the comedienne by Jessie. The salad features smoked salmon, fresh prawns, grilled shiitakes on a bed of lettuce and topped with slices (not sprinkles) of Parmesan cheese. When I think of Le Soufflé, I hunger for this dish more than any other, and I heartily recommend it, even to people who don't like salad.

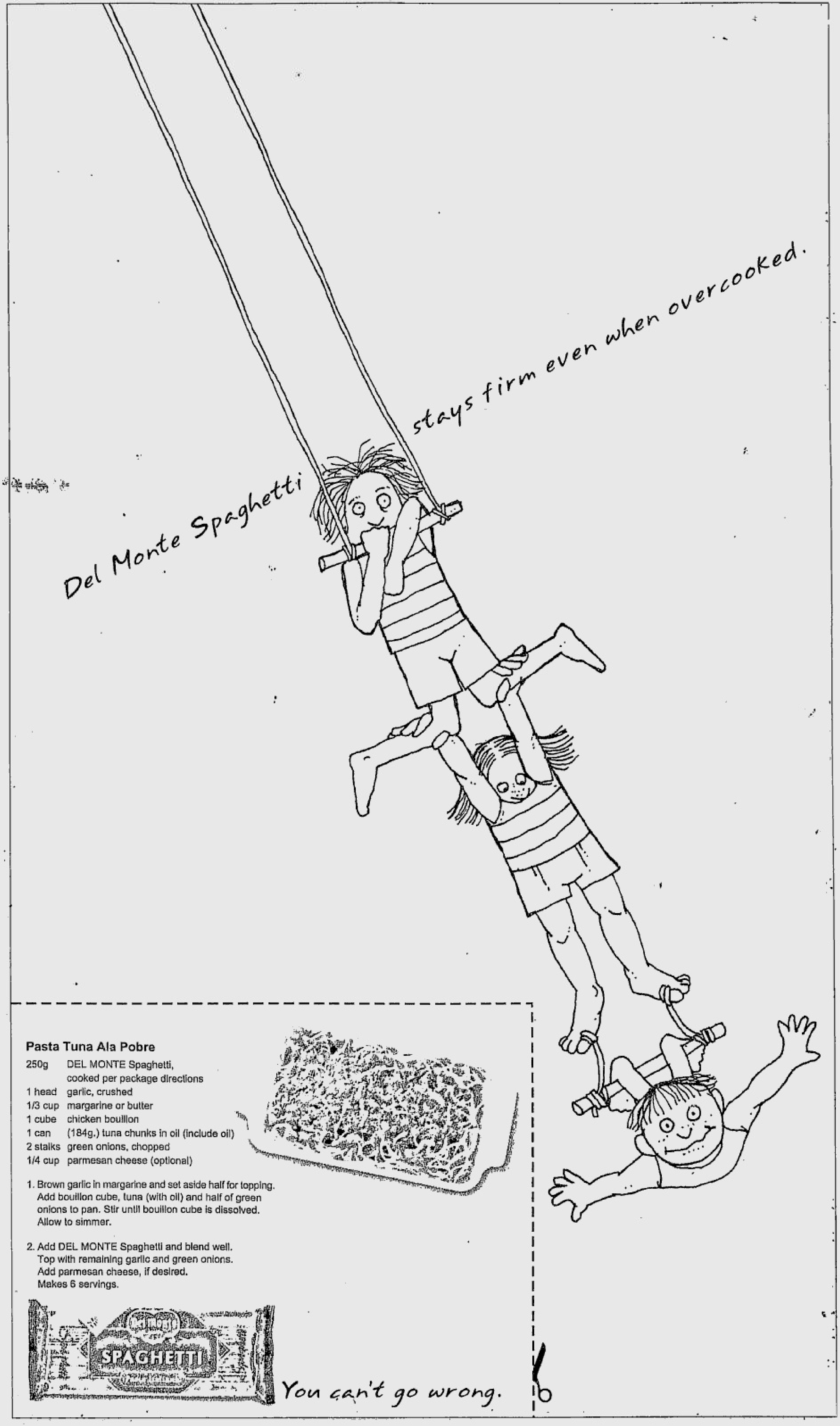
Pasta change

Back to the tasting menu. We were offered two kinds of pasta to sample and here I was able to give my first bit of constructive criticism to my host (who had brought me there after all to improve things, not merely wolf them down).

One dish was angel hair pasta covered in creamy mushroom sauce. The sauce itself was divine. I could taste a hint of truffle oil and, in my book, no other ingredient that can class up a standard carbonara type sauce the way truffle shavings or truffle oil can. (Invest in a bottle of white truffle oil for home use and drizzle it lightly on the simplest pasta sauces or steaks for a truly mind-blowing experience. I've used it to jazz up even leftover kiddie spaghetti!)

My recommendation for this Le Soufflé pasta was that they use a thicker pasta instead. The capello di angelo was just overpowered by the heavy cream sauce, giving it the look and texture of pancit palabok. Not bad if you were at Jollibee, but definitely not what you would expect at Le Soufflé. We asked that the pasta be switched to linguine or spaghetti and Jessie acceded without batting an eyelash.

TASTEFUL/J3



Del Monte Spaghetti stays firm even when overcooked.
SPAGHETTI
You can't go wrong.

Pasta Tuna Ala Pobre

250g	DEL MONTE Spaghetti, cooked per package directions
1 head	garlic, crushed
1/3 cup	margarine or butter
1 cube	chicken bouillon
1 can	(184g.) tuna chunks in oil (include oil)
2 stalks	green onions, chopped
1/4 cup	parmesan cheese (optional)

1. Brown garlic in margarine and set aside half for topping. Add bouillon cube, tuna (with oil) and half of green onions to pan. Stir until bouillon cube is dissolved. Allow to simmer.

2. Add DEL MONTE Spaghetti and blend well. Top with remaining garlic and green onions. Add parmesan cheese, if desired. Makes 6 servings.

PANCHO-DE LEON NUPTIALS

Aunt plays *cupid*

NEWLYWEDS Bong and Tricia Pancho

WITH PARENTS, Jun and Baby de Leon and Norma and Pedro Pancho Sr.

PRINCIPAL sponsors Helen Gamboa Sotto, Theresa Laus, Lolita Nicolas and Loida Pancho

IN SEPTEMBER last year, Lolly Nicolas thought of setting up a blind date between her niece Rose Tricia V. de Leon, Tricia for short, and her best friend Mia's brother Bong, as Pedro C. Pancho Jr. was known to family and friends.

Surprisingly, Bong, who was reputed to be *suplado*, readily agreed. Tricia, who didn't believe in blind dates, accepted out of respect for her Auntie Lolly. On the appointed date, Lolly, her sister-in-law Evelyn Salazar and Bong's sister Mia accompanied him to the de Leon residence, fearing he might not be very friendly.

But before they got to the De Leon residence, he asked the women not to join them for dinner anymore. So they ended up dining with Tricia's parents.

Although it was the first time they saw and talked to each other, Bong and Tricia hit it off immediately that, after dinner, they decided to watch a movie then had a long chat over coffee afterwards.

She discovered that behind the *suplado* image was a wacky sense of humor. He was enchanted by her talkativeness and love for travel.

After the blind date, he would visit her often in Talavera, Nueva Ecija, where she managed her parents' gas stations and operated her own chain of convenience stores. He was himself busy with his flour and bakery supplies distribution business in Baliuag, Bulacan.

They would also often go out when she was in Manila.

Date is set

Last Christmas Eve, after two months of dating, he proposed and the wedding was set for Aug. 7, the bride's birth month and the groom's parents' wedding anniversary.

So on an August afternoon, Tricia, one of the three daughters of petroleum distributor Dioscoro F. de Leon Jr. and Maria Remedios V. de Leon of Talavera, Nueva Ecija, walked down the aisle of Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park to marry Bong, son of three-term Bulacan Rep. Pedro Pancho Sr. and Norma Cruz Pancho.

> Would-be bride agreed to go on a blind date out of respect for her aunt

The groom's sisters Mia and Tina and the bride's sister Christine helped in the wedding preparation. Robert Blancaflor of 1816 decorated the church with huge roses and liliums. He filled up tall glass vases and champagne goblets with green and fuchsia hydrangeas, bells of Ireland, liliums and roses as centerpieces for the reception at the Rizal Ballroom of Shangri-La Makati.

Designer Paul Cabral, long-time friend of the groom's family, did the ensemble of the bride, the groom, the male and female entourage, using a celadon and fuchsia color motif. Jesi Mendez did the hair and makeup while Alex Franco whipped up a five-layer wedding cake.

The String Minstrels and 92 AD performed during the wedding rites and the dinner reception. Giveaways were engraved crystal plates from Tiffany & Co., and bracelets of green, fuchsia, pink and violet quartz crystals.

Cabanatuan diocese

The Mass was concelebrated by priests from the diocese of Cabanatuan—Rev. Msgr. Michael Balaria, Rev. Msgr. Michael Veneracion, Rev. Fr. Raymond Gaspar, Rev. Fr. Venes Matias, Rev. Fr. Mark Ancheta and Rev. Fr. Rene Vigilia.

Principal sponsors were Senator Vicente C. Sotto III and wife Helen, Philippine National Police Director General Hermogenes E. Ebdane Jr. and Loida V. Pancho, engineer Ireneo S. Villangca and Ma. Theresa A. Laus, lawyer Roberto F. de Leon and Lolita S. Nicolas, Lazaro J. Cruz Jr. and Estrellita C. Pangilinan, Antonio I. Chua Jr. and Josephine J. Veneracion, Teodosio N. Valenton Jr. and Miriam Evelyn V. Salazar.

Secondary sponsors were Patricio C. Pancho and Augustina Dominique C. Pancho, cord; Jose Roman C. Pancho and Valerie Joan C. Pancho, veil; Francis Vincent V. de Leon and Diorella Maria S. de Leon, candle.

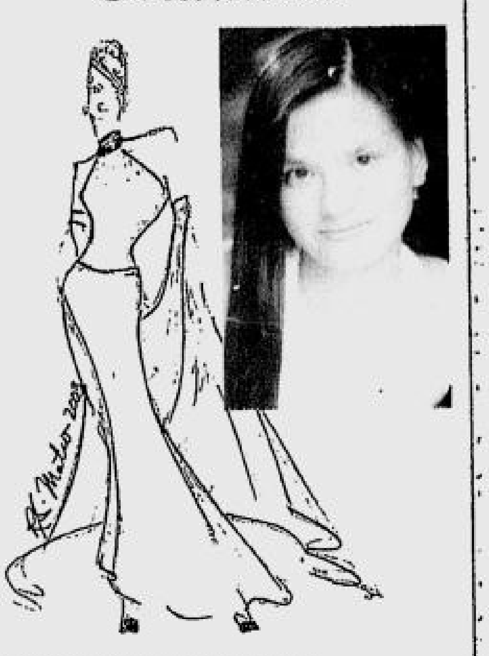
Best man was Gavini C. Pancho, maid of honor Rose Christine V. de Leon, matron of honor Maria Esmeralda P. Wan, groomsman Jose Eusebio C. Pancho, and bridesmaid Rose Ria V. de Leon. Junior groomsmen were Ronald Nicholas M. Fausto, Anthony Arvin V. Salazar and Anthony Joseph V. Salazar. Junior bridesmaids were Monique Eveleen V. Salazar, Lara Isabelle P. Wan and Maria Janella P. Wan.

Ring bearer was Victor Roman C. Pancho. Coin bearer was Antonio Gabriel L. Olalia. Flower girls were Vernice Renei C. Pancho, Helena Maria S. de Leon, Marie Claiya Angela M. Valenton and Thea Gerika P. Villaroman.

After the wedding, the newlyweds left for Thailand to honeymoon in Amanpuri in Phuket and The Oriental in Bangkok. They are later going on a cruise around the Greek islands of Mykonos, Santorini and Crete.

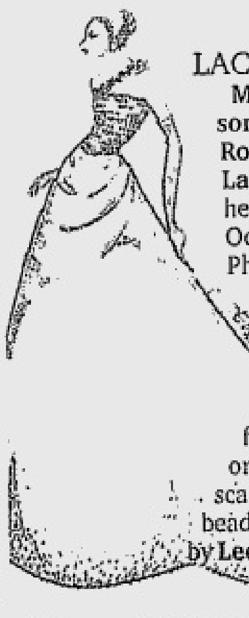
LAWYER Roberto de Leon, engineer Ireneo Villanca, Rene Pangilinan and Sen. Tito Sotto

Milestones



DEL ROSARIO DEBUT

Kristine Ann O. del Rosario, daughter of **Antonio** and **Isabel del Rosario**, celebrated her 18th birthday on Oct. 17. She is a student of De La Salle University, Dasmariñas, Cavite, taking up hotel and restaurant management. She wore a gown created by **Paul Rex Mateo** of The Wedding Day.



LACSON DEBUT

Marie Angeline Lacson, daughter of **Roland** and **Vangie Lacson**, celebrated her 18th birthday on Oct. 18 at Westin Philippine Plaza.

Maan wore a bouffant semi draped gown in handmade crushing top made of two-tone fuchsia.pink metallic organza beaded in scattered crystal sand beads. It was designed by **Leonard Co.**

SANTOS DEBUT

Abegail G. Santos, daughter of Mr and Ms **Renato Santos** celebrated her 18th birthday with a dinner party on Sept.27, at Garden Place on Luna Street, Bangkal, Makati.

God's plan for us as we attend Mother Teresa's beatification

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

ROME—In one of his homilies when we were yet in San Giovanni Rotondo, Fr. Vic Robles, our chaplain, told us God must have a plan for us since He gathered us all together to be in Rome for the beatification of Mother Teresa.

We were 60 pilgrims organized by Adam's Travel who left Manila on Oct. 14. On the morning of Oct. 19, we found ourselves with 300,000 other people from 123 countries. The presence of so many pilgrims affirms the world's desire to take on the path to holiness and service blazed by Mother Teresa.

The late nun, who could kiss a leper, embrace a dying beggar and bring him to the Missionaries of Charity House in Calcutta to give him a dignified death, was a phenomenon.

Her acts of charity did not go unnoticed. They were written about all over the world. And to show Mother Teresa that she touched their lives, people from different nations came to be present as the Catholic Church honored her and declared her "blessed."

She is now officially Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.

We from the Philippines, numbering perhaps a thousand, including those from California, London, Chicago and other places, came to be part of history.

Honorable Frank Alba, Philippine Ambassador to the Vatican, represented the Philippines and welcomed bishops who were also present, among them Archbishop Jesus Cabrera of Lingayen, Bishop Joel Baylon of Masbate, Bishop Tobias of La Union, Bishop Soc Villegas of Manila, Cardinal Vidal of Cebu and Archbishop Leonardo Legaspi of Nueva Caceres.

Former First Lady Imelda Marcos was also there. She opened the first Missionaries of Charity House in Del Pan, Tondo, in the late '70s. Now, there are 17 houses all over the Philippines.

What is God's plan for us? Perhaps, to do a little bit for the poor around us. Those who want a prayer *estampita* of Mother Teresa can write to me. Please enclose a long self-stamped envelope for easier mailing.

Who is Mother Teresa?

"By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, I am an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus."

Small of stature, rock-like in faith, Mother Teresa of Calcutta was entrusted with the mission of proclaiming God's love for humanity, especially for the poorest of the poor.

"God still loves the world, and He sends you and me to be His love and His compassion to the poor," she said.

She was a soul filled with the light of Christ, on fire with love for Him and burning with one desire: "to quench His thirst for love and for souls."

Mother Teresa was born on Aug. 26, 1910, in Skopje, a city situated at the crossroads of Balkan history. The youngest of the children born to Nikola and Drane Bojaxhiu, she was baptized Gonxha Agnes, received her first communion at the age of five and a half and was confirmed in November 1916. From the day of her first holy communion, a love for souls was burned within her.

At age 18, moved by a desire to become a missionary, Gonxha left her home in September 1928 to join the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Sisters of Loreto, Ireland. There, she received the name Sr. Mary Teresa after Therese of Lisieux.

In December, she departed for India, arriving in Calcutta on January 1929. After making her first profession of vows in May 1931, Sister Teresa was assigned to the Loreto Entaliy community in Calcutta and taught at St. Mary's School for girls.

On May 24, 1937, Sister Teresa made her final profession of vows, becoming, as she said, the "spouse of Jesus" for all eternity. From that time on, she was called Mother Teresa.

She continued teaching at St. Mary's and in 1944 became the school's principal. A person of profound prayer and deep love for her religious sisters and her students, Mother Teresa's 20 years in Loreto were filled with profound happiness. She was noted for her charity, unselfishness and courage, her capacity for hard work and a natural talent for organization.

She lived out her consecration to Jesus, in the midst of her companions, with fidelity and joy.

On Sept. 10, 1946, during a train ride from Calcutta to Darjeeling for her annual retreat, Mother Teresa received her "inspiration," her "call within a call." On that day, in a way she could never explain, Jesus' thirst for love and for souls took hold of her heart, and the desire to satiate His thirst became the driving force of her life.

He revealed His pain at the neglect of the poor, His sorrow at their ignorance of Him and His longing for their love. He asked Mother Teresa to establish a religious community, the Missionaries of Charity, that would be dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor.

Nearly two years of testing and discernment passed before Mother Teresa received permission to begin. On Aug. 17, 1948, she dressed for the first time in a white, blue-bordered sari and passed through the gates of her beloved Loreto convent to enter the world of the poor.

ENGINEER Efren Carlos holds up the Philippine flag for pilgrims of Adam's Travel in St. Peter's Square after Mother Teresa's beatification

In order to respond better to both the physical and spiritual needs of the poor, Mother Teresa also founded the Missionaries of Charity Brothers in 1963, in 1976 the contemplative branch of the Sisters, in 1979 the Contemplative Brothers, and in 1984 the Missionaries of Charity Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick and Suffering Co-Workers, people of many faiths and nationalities with whom she shared her spirit of prayer, simplicity, sacrifice and her apostolate of humble works of love.

This spirit later inspired the Lay Missionaries Charity, in answer to the requests of many priests. In 1981, Mother Teresa also began the Corpus Christi Movement for Priests as a "little way of holiness" for those who desire to share in her charism and spirit.

During the last years of her life, despite increasingly severe health problems, Mother Teresa continued to govern her Society and respond to the needs of the poor and the Church.

By 1997, Mother Teresa's congregation numbered nearly 4,000 members and were established in 610 foundations in 123 countries.

In March 1997, she blessed her newly elected successor as Superior General of the Missionaries of Charity and then made one more trip abroad. After meeting Pope John Paul II for the last time, she returned to Calcutta and spent her final weeks receiving visitors and instructing her sisters.

On Sept. 5, Mother Teresa's earthly life came to an end. She was given the honor of a state funeral by the Government of India and her body was buried in the Mother House of the Missionaries of Charity.

Her tomb quickly became a place of pilgrimage and prayer for people of all faiths, rich and poor alike.

Mother Teresa left a testament of unshakable faith, invincible hope and extraordinary charity. Her response to Jesus' plea, "Come be my light," made her a missionary of charity, a "mother to the poor," a symbol of compassion to the world, and a living witness to the thirsting love of God.

Montfortian Congress

The Daughters of Wisdom will celebrate the 300th year of their foundation with a Montfortian Congress on Nov. 8 and 9 at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral on Lantana Street, QC.

Founded by St. Louis Marie de Montfort and Blesses Marie Louise de Jesus in 1703, their order's charism is to reach out to the poorest of the poor, disabled children, and the special children in the Marie Louise Tricket Learning Center of J.P. Rizal Extension Street, West Rembo, Makati.

Their novitiate formation house is on 10 Rosal St., Cubao, QC, tel. 7261087.

Tasteful, taste-filled. . .

From page J1

Highlight

Unlike hotel buffets where the main course is usually the low point of the meal, Le Soufflé's main entrees were indeed the highlight. I am not a fish person, but I must sing the praises of their salt-crusted salmon. The black skin liberally sprinkled with sea salt was split open to reveal a foot-long, three-inch wide strip of pink flesh. Each bite melted in my mouth. Devoid of the usual adornments that masked the taste of salmon—like heavy sauces or teriyaki glazes—this was fresh fish in its purest form. The best adjectives I could think of for this dish are clean and honest. I made a mental note to spend the wedding camped out beside the salmon station.

Don't get me wrong—the prime rib and lamb chops, served with au jus sauces and dollops of horseradish and mustard—were excellent as well. I especially appreciated that the beef was sliced into strips not more than three inches high, five inches long. When you get roast beef slices that are as big as your palm, the meat-to-fat ratio is all wrong. These narrow strips allow you to get a little line of fat in every bite and we all know that, cholesterol be damned, the fat is where it's at!

For dessert, I was again disappointed that there would be no soufflés for us that day. Unfortunately, there is no way to make soufflés stand throughout a buffet, so for the wedding, it was to be chocolate mousse in wine glasses, a bowl of fresh fruits in syrup (I asked them to add sliced mint leaves to this as well— it gives the fruits a kick) and crepe samurai reminiscent of the Jeepney Bar's claim to fame. A fitting end to an awesome meal.

Oh, and there is one more thing that makes Le Soufflé truly a great place to celebrate, be it a wedding, an anniversary or a even promising new friend— smoking is allowed at its branch at The Fort, which is in Taguig. So eat up, drink up and fire away.

Le Soufflé has three branches. Le Soufflé French Mediterranean Restaurant and Wine Bar is at Unit B, Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig (tel. 8875108/09). Le Soufflé Bistro is at 2/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Ruby Road, Ortigas Center (6361614). Top of the Citi is at 34/F Citibank Tower, Paseo de Roxas, Makati (7505810).

Designer marks 18

DESIGNER Leonard Co marked his 18 years in fashion by presenting his trademark creations at the recent bridal fair Wedding Celebrations at the Edsa Shangri-la.

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BBAI

HAMMACK-CANUTO

Philip Steven Hammack, son of engineer **Felix** and **Mary Ann Hammack** of Bend, Oregon, USA, recently married **Maria Lilia Christine B. Canuto**, daughter of Dr. **Lilia** and the late **Efren Canuto** of Pili, Camarines Sur, at Our Lady of Peñafrancia Basilica Minore in Naga City. Reception followed at Golden Pavilion of Naga Regent Hotel.

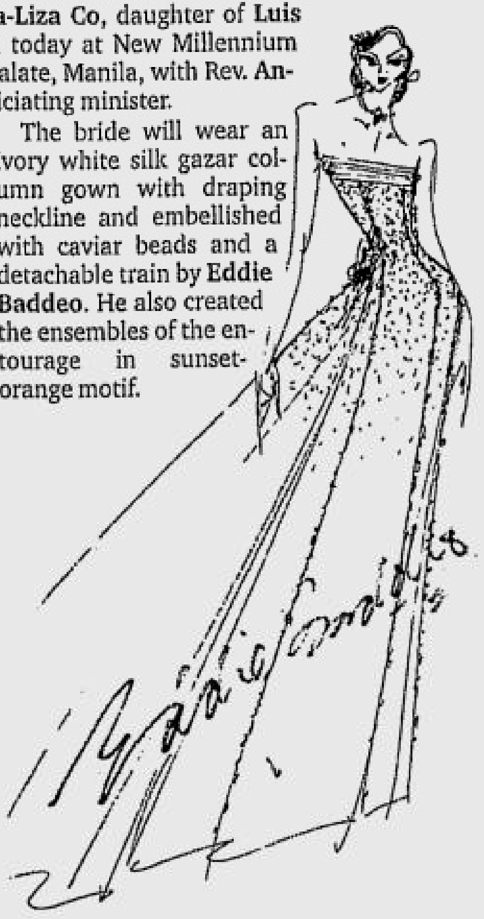
Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

ANGELES-CO

Dr. **Jovito Angeles**, son of **Jose** and **Merced Angeles**, will marry Dr. **Anna-Liza Co**, daughter of **Luis Rafael** and **Juliana Co**, today at New Millennium Evangelical Church in Malate, Manila, with Rev. **Andrew Tenefrancia** as officiating minister.

The bride will wear an ivory white silk gazar column gown with draping neckline and embellished with caviar beads and a detachable train by **Eddie Baddeo**. He also created the ensembles of the entourage in sunset-orange motif.



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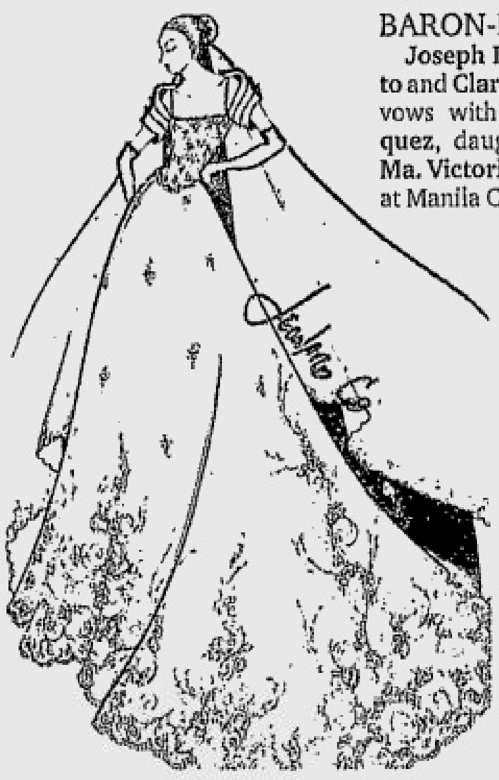
BARON-MARQUEZ

Joseph Baron, son of **Lamberto** and **Clarissa Baron**, exchanged vows with **Anna Victoria Marquez**, daughter of **Artemio** and **Ma. Victoria Marquez**, on Oct. 19 at Manila Cathedral.

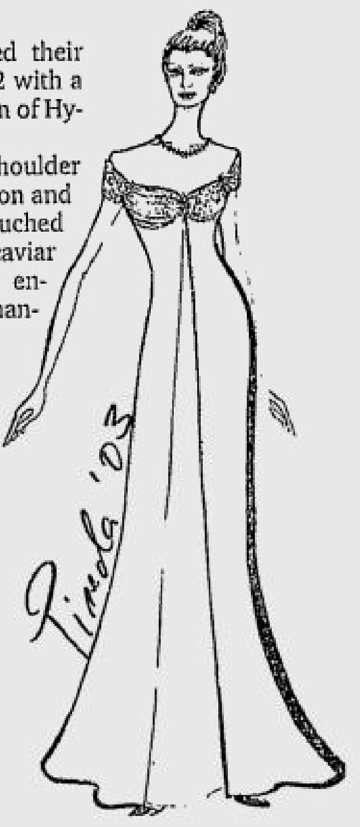
The bride wore a frosted ecru organza gown by **Leonard Co**. It had a semi-modern pleated *panuelo* with a three-meter cathedral train embroidered with a dainty floral pattern, and fully beaded with a lilac-colored accent.

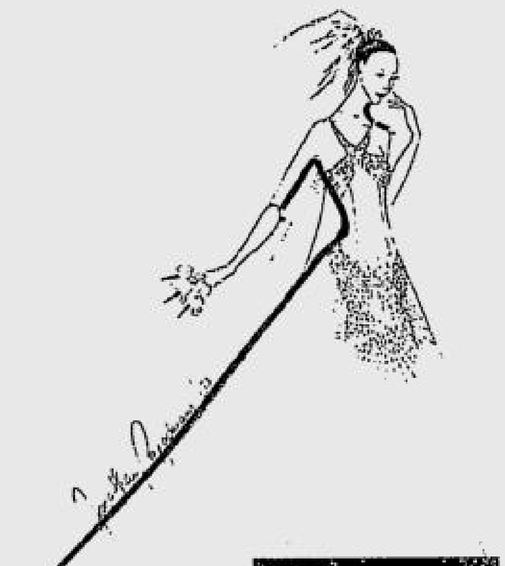


LIM SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Peter and **Connie Lim** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Oct. 22 with a dinner-dance at the Sampaguita Room of Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Eric Pineda designed an off-shoulder gown for the bride in silver gray chiffon and brocade. The empire-cut bodice was ruched and embellished with rhinestones, caviar beads and faux pearls. The female entourage wore gowns in teal blue shantung silk and silver.

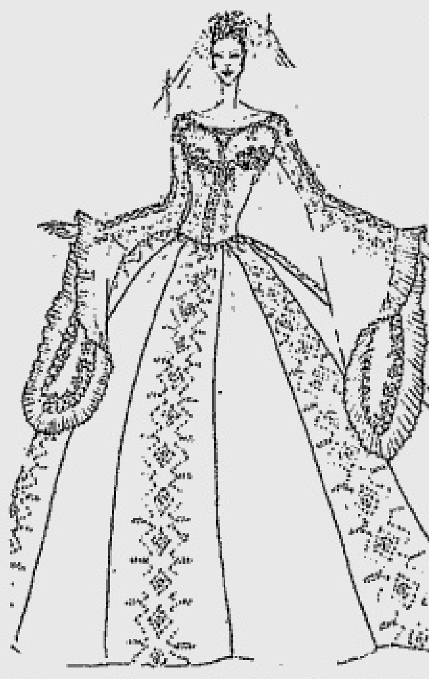




SALAZAR-VALDEZ

Vera C. Valdez, daughter of **Federico** and **Bibiana Valdez**, will exchange vows with **Christopher Y. Salazar**, son of **Carmelito** and **Precilla Salazar**, at Immaculate Conception Parish (San Agustin Church), Intramuros, Manila, today. Reception will follow at Manila Ballroom, Manila Hotel.

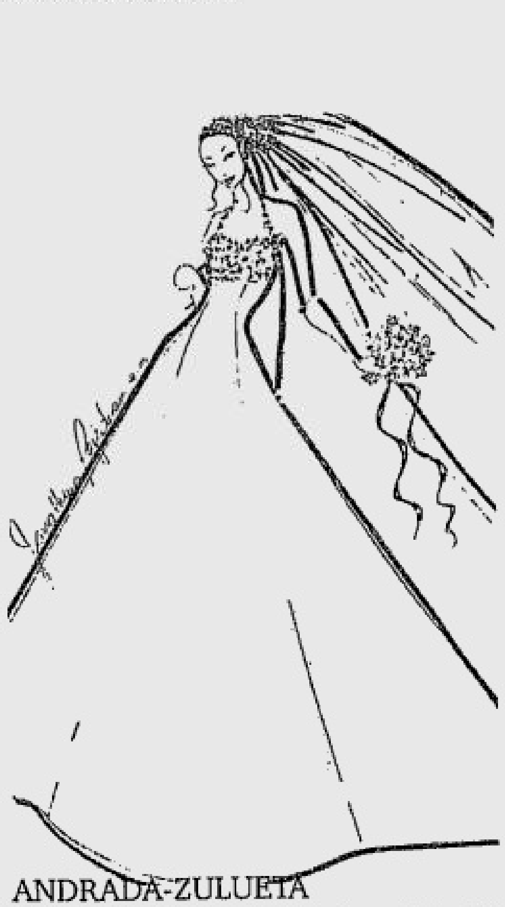
The bride will wear an ivory cream Italian duchess satin gown highlighted by Swarovski crystals. The groom will wear a *piña barong* accented by a gold thread design. The entourage will wear ensembles in two-tone red maroon and gold color motif by **Jonathan Pagaduan**.



MASTURA-BIRUAR

Lawyer **Ishak V. Mastura**, son of lawyer **Michael** and **Lourdes Mastura**, recently married **Majadiya B. Biruar**, daughter of **Hji. Magsaysay** and **Hja. Monera Biruar**, at the CCI Gymnasium, Cotabato City.

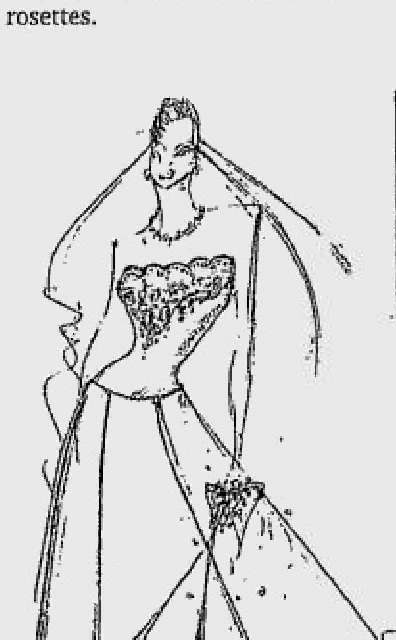
The bride wore a Renaissance-inspired gown by Pepe Quitco. It was woven with white and silver *e-naul* combined with champagne-hued silk gazar. The fan-like electric-pleated silk on the bodice and wide bell sleeves was interspersed with embossed floral appliqués and rosettes.



ANDRADA-ZULUETA

Erin Marie Zulueta, daughter of **Daniel** and **Carmen Zulueta** of Marikina, exchanged vows with **Kurt Dayle Andrada**, son of **Melvyn** and **Zoraida Andrada**, on Oct. 24 at Parish of Our Lady of Abandoned, Marikina City.

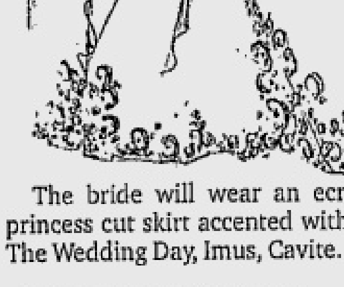
The bride wore an empire cut gown in cream Italian duchess satin. It was accented with Austrian crystals on top. The entourage wore ensembles in peach color motif by **Jonathan Pagaduan**.



OBCEMEA-SAMANO

Marlo Obcemea, son of **Mr. and Ms Wilfredo Obcemea** of Pampanga, and **Glenda Samano**, daughter of **Mr. and Ms Victoriano Samano** of Imus, Cavite, will exchange vows today at Our Lady of Grace Church, Angeles, Pampanga.

The bride will wear an ecru gown with scalloped bustier and princess cut skirt accented with crystal beads by **Paul Rex Mateo** of The Wedding Day, Imus, Cavite.



HERNANDEZ-ALANO

Dr. **Rose Alano**, daughter of **Caridad Racelis vda. de Alano**, and **Rolly Hernandez**, son of **Mr. and Ms Bernabe Hernandez**, were recently married at Gumaca Pastoral Formation Center Chapel, Gumaca, Quezon. Fr. **Tony Aguilar** officiated. The food served at Bulwagang Salakot Restaurant was provided by **Radsky Lopez**. The bride wore a gown by **Jeff Amurao**.

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2003
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- Must have very good oral and written communication and interpersonal skills.

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- Accounting graduate of a leading University or College, CPA
- Must have at least one (1) year experience in audit work, preferably gained from a bank
- Must have very good oral and written communication skills

FIELD COLLECTOR / CREDIT INVESTIGATOR

- College graduate, not more than 26 years old
- Preferably with experience in consumer credit investigation & collection work
- Must know how to ride a motorcycle and be a holder of a valid driver's license.

Interested parties may submit their resumé at:

PHILAM SAVINGS BANK
Human Resources Division
2/F Philam Bldg., Dela Rosa cor Palanca Street,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
or
Cathy-P.Paredes@aig.com

AIG Business Processing Services, Inc.

TEAM LEADERS
(Call Center & Business Processing)

- Graduate of any college course; advance degree is a plus
- With minimum of two years work experience in supervising people preferably in a Call Center, Insurance or Financial Service Institution.
- Ability to prepare, analyze, and effectively use different MIS reports; Proficient in Microsoft Software applications
- Strong interpersonal/communication skills; can work effectively across language and cultural barriers
- Manage a shift schedule from 9:00 PM – 5:30 AM

CALL CENTER SPECIALISTS

- Graduate of any college preferably Business, Humanities, or Liberal Arts with at least 1 year relevant Call Center experience servicing International clients.
- Excellent written and oral English communication skills; Excellent listening and telephone etiquette skills.
- Mastery of basic math and analytical skills
- Above average problem solving, judgment and decision-making skills; Ability to use multiple processing systems, handle multiple tasks and work effectively under pressure with minimum level of supervision.
- Ability to speak Spanish is an added advantage.
- Computer savvy, preferably knowledgeable with Windows NT/XP, MS Exchange, LAN/WAN and Email applications.
- Must be able and willing to work night shifts.
- Progress in / completion of industry (i.e. FLMI, CLU) and previous life insurance and / or customer service designation are added advantages.

Interested parties may submit their resumé at:

AIG BPSI
Human Resources Division
8/F Philamlife Building
Acacia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
or
BPSI-APPLICANTS@aig.com

PHILAM PLANS

TRAINING OFFICER

- Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course, 22-26 years old
- Has at least one year experience in the conduct and design of sales and employee training programs
- Must possess above average presentation, communication and interpersonal skills
- Must be computer literate

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
(Cubao / Ozamiz)

- Male- 25 to 32 years old; graduate of business course with high scholastic records
- At least 3 years managerial/operations experience , preferably gained from a financial institution
- Must possess above average communication & interpersonal skills; willing to travel
- Proficient with the use of software applications

AGENCY LICENSING SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of any 4 year business course 23-28 yrs old
- At least 1 yr. experience in the licensing of Sales Counselors with a pre-need/insurance company
- Must possess above average communication and interpersonal skills

BRANCH SERVICES OFFICER
(General Santos / Marbel)

- Graduate of Accounting or related courses
- 21-25 yrs old
- At least 1 year experience in cashiering functions
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Knowledge in spreadsheet and word processing

DOCUMENTATION CLERK

- Graduate of any business course, 21-25 years old
- At least 6 months - 1 yr. experience in administrative functions; preferably in the insurance/pre-need industry
- Knowledgeable in the use of word processing and spreadsheet application

Interested parties may submit their resumé at:

PHILAM PLANS INC.
Human Resources Division
6/F Philam Building
United Nations Avenue, Manila
or
PPIHR-RECEMP@AIG.COM

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ASIA CALL CENTER LINK is the foremost recruitment, training and consultancy firm in the Philippines. We recruit call center professionals for **ALL LEVELS** for the biggest call center operators in the country.

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You can start a career in the call center industry if you possess the following qualifications:
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(Full-time)

- Female (25 yrs. old & below)
- Fresh grads are welcome
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- Hard working

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ACCOUNTANT

- *Female, single, not more than 30 yrs of age*
- *Graduate of B.S. Accounting; Computer Literate*
- *Experience is an advantage but not required*

Applicants must have the knowledge of Chinese Languages and may send thru Phil. Daily Inquirer, Code-QC-LG 2003, St. Anthony Bldg., 891 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, QC

THE INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

We are inviting successful individuals to take part in our company's continued growth. Exciting work challenges, training and development opportunities, and competitive remuneration and benefits packages await the right candidates for the following immediate requirements:

BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYSTS
(For Alabang Corporate Office)

Responsibilities:
- Business Process Analysts will be conducting studies, reviews, business requirements validation/testing activities and procedures development in line with the need to support operational effectiveness and efficiency of current methods and procedures prescribed for organizational units and installed application systems as well as ensuring the optimum utilization of manpower and other organizational resources.

Requirements:
- Graduates of Industrial Engineering, Accounting, or Information Technology, with above average scholastic records; with 2-5 years work experience as Business Analyst/ Systems Analyst, ideally with well-grounded exposure to financial related projects or working knowledge of accounting principles and procedures gained from the same or similar industry; with strong analytical abilities, excellent communication, and interpersonal skills.

CORPORATE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
(For Makati City, Cebu City Offices)

Responsibilities:
- Account Executives will be providing technical and administrative support services to group marketing operations, establishing and conserving marketing tie-ups with corporations/associations in order to meet production targets, and assisting in the company's various sales projects for corporate clients.

Requirements:
- Graduates of any four-year business course, with above average scholastic records; with proven track record in sales and account management, ideally gained from the financial services industry; with excellent communication and negotiation skills, as well as strong customer service orientation.

REGIONAL SALES TRAINERS
(For San Fernando and Bicol Regional Offices)

Responsibilities:
- Regional Sales Trainers will be assisting in planning, organizing, conducting, and evaluating training programs in order to provide the insurance sales agents with the right knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for greater sales performance.

Requirements:
- Graduates of any social science or business course, with above average scholastic records; with 1- 5 years of work experience in training and development functions, and/or any comparable work exposure to sales and marketing operations, ideally gained from the same or similar industry; with excellent communication, presentation, and interpersonal skills; willing to travel to field offices within the assigned region to conduct training needs analysis and to deliver the necessary programs.

ANALYSTS/PROGRAMMERS
(For Alabang Corporate Office)

Responsibilities:
- Analysts/Programmers will be responsible for studying, planning, developing and implementing application systems/packages based on users' requirements for continuous improvement in the various business operations of the company.

Requirements:
- Graduates of BS Computer Science/Engineering or any four-year business course, with at least 2 years of work experience in the full life cycle systems development projects in a lead capacity; proficient in the use of Cobol/Unix, Visual Basic, and/or any web development tools (Java, HTML, XML), ideally knowledgeable of object oriented modeling, datawarehousing, customer relationship management solutions; and with effective communication skills and excellent customer service orientation.

Qualified applicants may email their resumés in plain text format, indicating the position as the email subject, to **careers@insular.com.ph** or personally deliver their resumés with recent 2x2 photo and transcript of records to:

Recruitment and Placement Section
THE INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.
Level 8, IL Corporate Centre, IL Drive, Filinvest Corporate City
Alabang, 1781 Muntinlupa City

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Time? 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM
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New York Life Insurance, a Fortune 500, is one of the largest insurance companies in the United States and in the world. It has almost $180 billion in assets under management, ranked 2nd in America's Most Admired Companies listings (March 2003 issue). As we continue to expand our operations, we are inviting highly motivated individuals to join our growing organization as:

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AREA MANAGERS (AM) – for Metro Manila & Cebu (should be a resident in Cebu)

FINANCIAL EXECUTIVES (FE) – for Luzon, Visayas & Mindanao areas

ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS:

- ***Collector***
- ***BOS Dagupan***
- ***Branch Office Staff (BOS) Davao***
- ***Accounting Clerk***
- ***FS Assistant - Field Services***
- ***Actuarial Analyst***
- ***Branch Team Leader - Chinatown***
- ***Sales Coordinator Assistant***
- ***Conservation Executive***
- ***Training Specialist (1) – for Pampanga & Dagupan***
- ***Training Specialist (1) – Metro Manila***

Send your resume with 2x2 picture to:
RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
28th Floor PBCOM Tower, Ayala Avenue cor. V. A. Rufino St., Salcedo Village, Makati City 1226, OR email to recruitment@newyorklife.ph OR Fax to +632 818-2704

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We are a Group of Companies engaged in the health and beauty business and as part of our goal towards continued market leadership, our company is searching for individuals who can join our team of committed and dynamic people as:

Sales & Marketing Consultants

- Female, 24 – 32 years old
- Smart, confident with a professional appearance and pleasing personality
- College graduate from a reputable university
- With 2-3 years of managerial experience and with an outstanding track record in sales and/or marketing
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills

Telemarketers / Receptionists

- Female, 21-28 years old, with a smart and professional attitude and pleasant appearance
- College graduate of any course (Business Orientation, an advantage)
- With excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Previous telemarketing experience, a plus

Part-Time Dermatologists/Medical Doctors

- Male/Female, 27-35 years old
- Licensed/Qualified Dermatologist/ For Medical Doctors: Trained and experienced in Family or Internal Medicine, those in other fields are also welcome to apply
- Good built, with good skin condition and pleasing personality
- With good interpersonal and communication skills
- Work schedule can be arranged

Nurses / Therapists

- Female, 20-28 years old
- BS Nursing/BS Physical Therapy graduate
- With good communication skills and PR
- With or without experience

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Qualified candidates may come personally or mail their Resume
with a 2x2 photo and Transcript of Records to:
THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
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e-mail us at: hrdrecruit@mfbi.com.ph

Chef, Cook, Janitor, Steward, Bartender, Cashier, Waiter, Bistro Supervisor, Accounting Clerk
Full-time, Part-time, not more than 30 yrs. Old., min. 1 yr. experience, resident of Makati preferred but not required
Telefax: 898-2542 to 45
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G/F LRI
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210 Nicanor Garcia St.,
Bel-Air, Makati City

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Bring your resumé with ID picture to:
Second Floor, Glorietta I, Ayala Center, Makati City

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The CRM Services Company

ICT GROUP is a leading globally integrated supplier of customer relationship management (CRM) solutions. We provide a comprehensive suite of sales, service and marketing solutions designed to help clients identify, acquire, retain, service, measure and maximize the lifetime value of their customer relationships.

More than 11,000 ICT GROUP employees at nearly 50 contact centers in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, Mexico, the Caribbean and the Philippines support multinational corporations and institutions, primarily in the financial services, insurance, telecommunications, healthcare, information technology, media, energy and hospitality industries.

In the Philippines, ICT Group has been noted as one of the fast-growing call centers in Manila giving opportunities to individuals who are comfortable with technology and committed to client satisfaction and total quality.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Requirements:

1. Financial Account
    - Experience in a mortgage or financial account
2. Sales Account
    - Experience in sales and telemarketing

Qualifications:

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field
- Excellent communication skills in conversational English
- Active listening skills
- Strong interpersonal skills to work with the customers and with the team
- Applicants must be willing to work on shifting schedule
- FRESH GRADUATES/ENTRY-LEVEL applicants are encouraged to apply

Interested applicants may send their resumé to
recruitingmanila@ictgroup.com

or

visit us at the 19th Floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue
corner Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

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SALES EXEC. / ENGINEERS

Male/Female, not more than 35 years old with pleasing personality; At least 1 year relevant experience in handling industrial, commercial, projects and institutional accounts, and familiar in any of the following products:

* **Industrial Ventilation / Exhaust Fans** (for commercial, industrial and livestock applications; technical knowledge in fans/blowers an advantage.)
* **Industrial/Architectural Lighting** * **Wires, Cables & Accessories**
* **Motor Controls & Components / Safety Switches**

Excellent communication skills, hardworking, trustworthy, driven, result-oriented and highly committed to meeting sales targets. Ability to speak in Chinese an advantage but not required.

PURCHASING OFFICERS

Female, not more than 30 years old; Acctng/Business/Engineering graduate with at least 1 year experience as purchaser and dealing/negotiating with local suppliers; Excellent oral communication skills in English and Chinese; Hardworking, resourceful, honest, team player with leadership skills.

ACCOUNTING OFFICER

Female, not more than 32 years old; Acctg. Graduate, at least 3 years working experience as accounts payable officer/bookkeeper; capable of handling multiple tasks, computer literate and exposed to computerized accounting system; Team player with leadership skills, proactive, flexible and organized; Knowledge of Fukien or Mandarin an advantage but not required.

DELPHI PROGRAMMER

Male/Female, at least 2 years experience in application programming and system analysis; Must be proficient in Delphi 5 (or higher); Interbase and/or MSSQL; Must be proactive, resourceful, and detail-oriented; Able to multi-task and requires minimal supervision; Professional and of upstanding moral character.

GRAPHIC ARTIST/DESIGNERS

Male/Female, at least 3 years experience, able to conceptualize and design marketing materials, print ads, web design and execution of showroom, exhibit booth and store displays; Highly creative and meticulous in detail; Strong knowledge in Adobe PageMaker, PhotoShop, Macromedia Dreamweaver; Good communication and interpersonal skills.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS

Male/Female, 24-30 years old; Graduate of Marketing, Communications or Journalism; Must have **EXCELLENT** oral and written English skills; Knowledge of Fukien or Mandarin an advantage but not required; Proficient in MS Office programs and use of internet and e-mail, and familiar with use of Adobe Photoshop, Pagemaker, or InDesign; Must be very organized and detail-oriented with ability to multi-task; Possess leadership skills and has team oriented attitude; proactive, flexible, discrete and trustworthy.

Applicants to e-mail comprehensive resumé to:
zgchrd@vasia.com
or mail to: Le Marben Bldg.
676 Florentino Torres St., Sta. Cruz, Manila

FUJITSU

FUJITSU COMPUTER PRODUCTS CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

PRODUCTION DATA CONTROL SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of any Engineering or Business course
- Knowledgeable in parts and data movements
- Exposure in planning and material control systems
- At least 3 years similar experience in a semiconductor/electronics company
- Possesses good oral and written communication skills, logical, analytical and is an effective leader
- Male or Female, ages 28-32

ENGINEERING GRADUATES BATCH 2003

- Mechanical (Batch 2002 is still acceptable), ECE, Electrical, Chemical, Computer and Industrial Engineering graduates (with or without license)
- Should possess leadership qualities, are team-players and hardworking
- Must be willing to work on shifts
- Male or Female, not more than 23 years of age

COMPANY NURSES

- Will be responsible for the curative, palliative, preventive, rehabilitative and administrative aspects of employees' health care
- Graduates of BS Nursing, licensed
- Must be service-oriented and willing to work on shifts
- Must be proficient in Windows applications
- Female, not more than 27 years of age

HR/ADMIN. ASSISTANT

- Will report directly to the Head of HR and General Affairs
- Graduate of any business, communication or psychology course
- Pleasing personality and good communication skills, including report writing
- Must be proficient in Windows applications
- Female, not more than 24 years of age

To know more about the company, you can visit us at http://ph.fujitsu.com/fcpp. Successful candidates will be based in Canlubang, Laguna and can ride shuttle buses to and from the site. Please send your resumes to: The Assistant Vice President, HR & General Affairs Department, Fujitsu Computer Products Corporation of the Philippines, SEPZ, Carmelray Industrial Park, Canlubang, Calamba, Laguna, or email to: recruit@fcpp.fujitsu.com or you may also apply personally in business attire, Mondays to Fridays at 9 AM.

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Technical Writer

- Minimum of four-year degree from an educational institution or equivalent training and experience.
- Must be proficient in creating and developing on-line documentation (HTML manual coding)
- Knowledge of Web technologies (ActiveX and Javascript) a plus
- Proficient in all aspect of word processing, desktop publishing, graphic editing, and page design
- Must possess ability to write clearly, concisely and accurately, translating technical information into simple-to-understand English
- Excellent communication, time management, writing, editing and organizational skills with high emphasis on detail
- Self-motivated and able to work without direct supervision
- Possesses a positive attitude
- Electrical and Electronics background and UPS product knowledge and advantage

Software Engineer

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Computer/Telecommunication), Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent
- At least 1-2 years working experience in programming and software development
- Very strong working knowledge in Programming, SQL Server, and Networking Infrastructure
- Basic knowledge in COM, COM+, DCOM, XML, .Net
- Applicants must be willing to work on shifts (including graveyard)

Database Specialists

- Graduate of BS Computer Science
- Hands-on experience on SQL 7.0 or 2000, MS Access, Informix, ODBC and RDBMS
- Knowledgeable in VB, ASP, XML, HTML, 4GL and SQL scripting
- In-depth background in MS Office 2000, Windows 2000 or NT applications and Data Architecture and Design
- Experience in system analysis, design and development
- Working knowledge in preparation of system procedures and documents
- Has background in CMS reporting
- Team player, customer service oriented and willing to work on extended hours, if needed

HR Officer for Recruitment

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field.
- At least 2 years of related work experience
- Proficient with Microsoft applications
- Experience in project management an advantage
- Applicant should be able to liaise with different professional organizations and educational institutions

Senior Account Manager

This person who will hold this post is primarily accountable for establishing and maintaining a sound operational system that is based on client needs. Continuous improvement should be implemented in order to effectively maximize customer satisfaction, revenue, and maintain competitive edge.

- Previous Product and Client responsibility, with a minimum of 5 years experience in a call center management role in a customer service or support function an advantage
- Effective written and verbal communication skills
- Experience in working with people on different levels, with proven excellent customer service skills
- Experience in negotiation and diplomacy
- Experience in budgeting and adept in analyzing statistical information

Account Manager

Reporting to the Senior Account Manager, this person will be the key client contact and shall work on single or multiple accounts. He/She will be responsible for developing strong client relationships at all levels, as well as the on-going business direction of the account. He/She must be able to multi-task and ensure quality support to clients.

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field
- At 2 year(s) of working experience in a call center industry an advantage
- Proficient with Microsoft applications
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status
- Previous work experience as Assistant Manager, Managers specializing Customer Service or equivalent

Customer Service Representatives - Finance

- College graduate in any Finance, Accountancy and Business-related fields
- At least 6 months working experience in a Mortgage or Banking-related industry
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Strong command in oral and written English communication skills
- Analytical, detail-oriented, can handle pressure and enjoys customer service
- Willing to work on graveyard shift

Technical Support Engineer

- Graduates of Computer Science and Computer Engineering preferred but not a requirement
- Strong working knowledge of the internet
- Excellent English communication skills
- Willing to work on a shifting schedule
- Undergraduates with few units left are welcome to apply

Air Conditioning Services and Support Engineer

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College degree in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent.
- Experience working with comparable air conditioning products of which three or more years working within a parts and service department.
- Overall knowledge of old and new environmental products with thorough knowledge of refrigeration basics.
- Refrigeration, electrical, and HVAC background
- Ability to prioritize workload and complete multiple tasks in a predetermined time frame
- Excellent organizational in interpersonal skills is a must
- Good conversational skills in English both written and oral communication
- High tolerance to stress and must be a self-starter
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City. He/She should be a Filipino citizen or hold relevant residence status
- Fresh graduates/Entry level applicants are encouraged to apply

Technical Support Engineer for Motors Quotation

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree or Professional License (Passed Board/Bar/Professional License Exam) in Mechanical/Electrical/Electronic Engineering or equivalent
- This position requires a good understanding of NEMA and IEEE standards; motor terminology; application implications (such as ambient temperature, altitude, temperature rise, unbalanced voltage conditions, explosion-proof implications, inverter duty)
- Assist sales and marketing with technical review of NEMA frame and above NEMA frame (Titan) industrial motor specifications and production of timely, accurate quotations to our customers.
- Work scope includes review of consulting engineer's technical specifications, matching of the specification requirements to our product offering, provide timely, accurate quotations to our customers including detailed exceptions or clarifications to the specification requirements and offer alternative solutions where exceptions must be taken
- Knowledge of Motors product offerings/platforms
- Good communication skills
- Applicants must be willing to work in Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status
- With at least 1 year related work experience

Customer Service Representatives - Insurance

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Human Resource Management, Humanities/Liberal Arts or equivalent
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status
- Fresh graduates/Entry level applicants are encouraged to apply
- Willing to work on shifting schedules

Oracle Database Administrator

- Solid understanding of Enterprise Systems and Oracle Integration
- Solid understanding of system design and development
- Highly proficient in Oracle installation, upgrade, configuration, database design, object and schema management
- Full knowledge of back-up and recovery, disaster recovery
- Experience on RMAN highly desirable
- Working knowledge of Security, networking, OEM Oracle utilities (export, import, SQL*Loader)
- Good working knowledge of Change Control/Management processes
- Proficient in the use of Visio 2000 and MS Office
- Ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously
- Strong written and verbal skills
- Team player, customer service oriented and willing to work on extended hours, if needed

Associate Software Engineers

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelors/College Degree in Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent
- Required skills: VB, ASP
- Required language: English
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status
- Fresh graduates/entry level applicants are encouraged to apply.

Training Officers

- College graduate in the field of Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related field in Training in the English Language
- At least 3 years work experience in 1) developing module that enhances English communications and writing skills and, 2) conducting English Communications Enhancement training or related field
- ESL or TEFL certification is an advantage
- Creative and keen in addressing needs of further training for enunciation, accent, diction and tone
- Strong command in spoken and written English
- Proficient in the use of Microsoft applications, internet savvy
- Willing to work in night shift when required

Customer Service Representatives

Provides first line Customer Service assistance through phone support

- College graduate of any course
- Minimum of 1 year work experience in a customer service environment or 6 months experience in a call center industry
- Proficient in the use Microsoft Office applications; basic knowledge of web technology and the Internet
- Fluent in English and excellent business writing skills
- Willing to work on night shift schedule
- Knowledge of Macromedia products preferred but not a requirement
- This position will have the opportunity to learn High class software applications like Flash, Freehand, Dreamweaver, etc.

Customer Service Representatives – Foreign Languages

- At least college level but college graduates is an advantage (degree in IT field also an advantage)
- At least 1 year experience in a Customer Service environment. Call Center experience preferred.
- Strong command in written and oral speaking in any of the following languages: Malay, Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, Spanish, Portugese, French, German, Italian, and Korean.
- Good conversational skills in English both written and oral communication
- Proficient in report writing, business correspondence and procedure manuals
- Results oriented, team player and can work under pressure
- Proficient in PC applications; Internet savvy ; knowledgeable on PC troubleshooting and familiar in different Operating Systems (OS) (e.g. Win95/98/2000, NT, Macintosh) an advantage
- Willing to work on extended hours and will be based in Makati City

Technical Support Engineer- Business Software

- Candidate must possess a degree in Accounting, Business, Commerce, Management Information Systems, or computer-related courses.
- At least 1 year working experience gained from Customer Cervice or Technical Support environment
- Knowledge in business and accounting software a definite plus.
- Highly intelligent and adaptable to situations
- Very good communication skills
- Willing to work on a night shift

Contract Reviewer

Entails the review of each customer order (within an assigned limit) to ensure that the customer's purchase contract requirements are clearly defined, documented, and in agreement with Client's terms of sale. It is this individual's responsibility to work through any discrepancies that exist with the customer, from President level down to purchasing and procurement, at the same time keeping the Client's Representative in the negotiations. This position also oversees the sales order entry details to assure compliance with the customer contract, with focus on protecting Client's interests and providing customer satisfaction.

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field
- Required language: English
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status
- Fresh graduates/entry level applicants are encouraged to apply

DPG Sales Coordinator

The Coordinator must maintain a balance between corporate policy/procedures and the customers needs. This includes providing an exceptional level of customer service to all Sales Representatives, International Distributors (when applicable), and Factory Direct Offices. Customer Service is defined as responding to all customer inquires including, expedite requests, change orders, order clarification, status inquiries, after-invoice adjustments, etc.

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field.
- Required language: English
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City.
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status.
- Fresh graduates/Entry level applicants are encouraged to apply.

☞ *Reports Analysts*

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Computer/Telecommunication), Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent.
- Required skill(s): COGNOS, MicroStrategy, Crystal Reports.
- At least 3 year(s) of working experience in the related field is required for this position.
- Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City.
- Applicants should be Filipino citizens or hold relevant residence status
- Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employees specializing in IT/Computer - Network/System/Database Admin or equivalent.

☞ *Inside Sales Engineer*

- The candidates will respond to product related inquiry through phone, e-mail and fax. They will need to maintain strong and close relationship with customers
- Graduate of any BS degree, preferably in Engineering
- Telesales experience
- Excellent oral and written English communication skills
- High attention to details
- Must possess the right attitude, skills and personality to be trained to support customers in both technical and commercial areas

SYKES

We invite career seekers to submit their CVs to:

SYKES Asia, Inc.
28th Floor Robinsons Summit Center
6783 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1226
e-mail: hrd@man.ph.sykes.com

www.sykes.com

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NAVITAIRE®

Accountant (Code: AAR)

- will assist the Finance Manager in day-to-day activities such as payable processing, check preparation & releasing, tax reporting, petty cash disbursements, and PeopleSoft roll-out.

Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting or any related courses; preferably CPA; at least 4 years experience in General & Accounts Payable Accounting, preferably from a service multinational company; knowledge in tax reporting; relevant experience in a computerized accounting environment, preferably PeopleSoft; excellent communication skills, both oral and written English; can demonstrate successful experience in working individually and with a team.

General Services Coordinator

(Code: GSC)

- will manage day-to-day administrative functions such as purchasing and vendor relations, facilities maintenance, workspace/building issues, events coordination, travel assignments, and other related activities. The chosen candidate will be in close coordination with Finance and Admin, Technical Operations, and Human Resources.

Candidates must be a College graduate, preferably in Engineering or Business; willing to put in long hours, highly flexible to exceed customer expectations; fluent in verbal and written English; can develop and effectively communicate policy; proficient in MS Office (Outlook, Word, Excel, Powerpoint); with 3-8 years experience in the following areas:

- *Security and housekeeping (janitorial) services*
- *Office Services – messengerial services, purchasing, secretarial services, office supplies management, reception*
- Experience in a business center an advantage – providing business services to traveling executives
- Events coordination – business meetings, functions, employee events
- Office lay-out planning & implementation
- Handling travel needs of executives

Airline Ticket Auditors (Code:ATA)

- will be responsible for reviewing airline-related transactions for international carriers.

Candidates must possess a University degree with good academic record; airline and travel agency experience is a plus; must be willing to work on shifts (6am-2pm; 2-10pm), weekends, and holidays and undergo pre-employment training (allowance provided); with at least one year Office experience; with good grasp of Microsoft Office products.

Contract Administration Staff

(Code: CAS)

- will provide support to the Manila Business Process Outsourcing group. Successful candidate will maintain a comprehensive "contract tracking" database and ensure quality of contracts coded in the system.

Candidates must be a College graduate (preferably of Secretarial Administration or Library Science courses); with related working experience; can demonstrate strong organizational skills and can work with minimal supervision; with excellent communication skills, both oral and written English; with working knowledge of Microsoft Office Products, especially MS Word, Excel, and Access Database; willing to work on shifts (6am-2pm; 2-10pm).

Interested applicants may send their resume, recent photo, and official transcript of records to:

The Human Resources Department
Navitaire International, LLC
16F, Philamlife Tower Bldg,
8767 Paseo de Roxas Street, Makati City 1226

Fax No: 830-4404
Email Address: HR.Manila@navitaire.com
(Text form only. Please indicate code as email subject.)
Visit our website at www.navitaire.com

Note: Applicants with complete requirements will be given priority. We will respond only to qualified applicants.

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OPERATIONS OFFICER (TRUST FUNDS)

The World Bank Office Manila is recruiting an **Operations Officer for Trust Funds**, responsible for coordinating and overseeing its diversified trust fund portfolio. This position involves a high degree of interaction with various clients – task teams in the country management unit (CMU) and across operational units, government counterparts and donors. This position will be for a two-year term appointment, subject to one-year probationary period, with possibility of renewal. The Officer will work closely with the Operations Officer for the Loan Portfolio, as part of a Portfolio Management and Quality Unit headed by the Manager, Portfolio and Operations.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The Operations Officer for Trust Funds will play a key role in improving the use and impact of Trust Funds (TF); mobilizing external resources; monitoring implementation of the TF portfolio and ensuring compliance with the TF policies, guidelines and procedures; facilitating the processing and implementation of TFs; and ensuring that the TF mobilization efforts are in line with the country's work program activities and consistent with the Country Assistance Strategy. He/she will serve as focal person in the Manila office for World Bank administered trust fund policies, guidelines and procedures and keep the country team fully apprised of developments. More specifically, the job would entail: conducting quality assurance reviews for TF-related transactions; monitoring TF portfolio performance and compliance including maintaining a database on the portfolio; identifying TF issues and undertaking initiatives to address specific implementation issues; providing inputs concerning TFs to diverse operations reports; and conducting workshops/briefing sessions and training on trust funds as necessary. He/she will also be working closely with the Operations Officer for the Loan Portfolio and Manager, Portfolio and Operations in all activities related to the enhancement of the quality of the overall World Bank assistance portfolio in the Philippines.

Selection Criteria:

- Advanced degree in relevant discipline such as economics, finance, accounting or business administration with strong quantitative skills;
- Minimum of 7 years professional experience including a minimum of 3 years in development work;
- Experience with foreign assisted projects in the Philippines, and the use of consultants in development activities will be a major advantage;
- Strong hands-on experience in project management;
- Good understanding of the Bank's mission, policies and business practices; familiarity with the Bank's trust fund procedures and operational policies would be an advantage;
- Flexibility to respond to changing priorities and intense work demands, and ability to produce quality work under tight deadlines;
- Strong interpersonal skills -- ability to deal with people at all levels, coupled with a strong client orientation;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, and the ability to communicate effectively with clients; and
- Advanced computer skills and full proficiency in use of relevant software applications.

The World Bank offers a competitive compensation package based on the local market, and attractive medical and pension plans. The salary will not be subject to income tax.

Please send your application letter, with comprehensive resume with details of your work experience, academic records, recent photo, references (at least three names with full contact details) not later than October 31, 2003 to:

KSearch Asia Consulting, Inc., c/o Dennis G. Bahia at 22/F 139 Corporate Centre, 139 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or email to dbahia@ksearch.com.ph; fax to 893-6259.

Only applicants who will be short-listed will be called upon for interview.

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This position is responsible for receiving, initiating and handling phone transactions; documenting and/or escalating issues to ensure customers' concerns are addressed promptly and appropriately. It includes educating the customer on the product/service features.

Requires a Bachelor's degree; excellent communication, interpersonal and active listening skills; agile mind; emotional maturity; computer literate.Exposure in customer service environment a plus.

Interested Applicants are requested to e-mail their resumé to: ***hrd@cspacific.com*** *or mail to ALL ASIA CUSTOMER SERVICES, INC. 11th Floor, Citibank Center, 8741 Paseo de Roxas cor. Villar St., Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City*

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OPERATIONS

Assistant Call Center Manager -- must be able to manage a team of managers who provide support and development to CSRs. Managerial experience is imperative and openness to shifting schedules is required.

Team Manager -- able to lead, manage, coach, motivate, and track the development and performance of CSRs, assist in meeting all performance goals and manage the call center floor. Must have at least 1 year experience in managing/supervising a customer service set up.

Quality Assurance Team Manager -- assure quality performance through monitoring customer calls, then give concise, and accurate feedback and coaching to Quality Assurance Coordinators, CSRs, Trainers, and Team Managers.

Workforce Analyst -- must be able to monitor call volumes and staffing/schedule needs to ensure that established service levels are met. Must have experience with TCS, Agent Power, RTA, Aspect, and Microsoft Excel.

Trainer -- will teach and develop new employees to become Customer Service Representatives (CSRs), and conduct on-going training for existing CSRs, and develop new training materials. Must have prior training or teaching experience, preferably in Customer Service industries.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY / TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Network Operations Center Engineer -- first line of support using basic trouble shooting skills for phone calls and network monitoring pages. Must have at least a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Computer Science, Data Communications and have worked for at least 1 year in a call center/related industry.

Systems Administrator -- In-charge of System and Network administration, documentation, troubleshooting, disaster prevention, and recovery. Must have at least a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/related fields, and working experience as a manager/supervisor in Systems and Network services.

Helpdesk Analyst -- responsible in fielding, logging, and providing first level support to users and coordinate all other issues associated with the call center's use of technology. Must have at least 2 years experience with LAN/WAN voice and data networks including VOIP, support voice and data network hardware, common desktop hardware, and OS.

Technical Support Engineer -- in-charge of maintenance of workstation, notebooks, network switches, and printers within the company's area. Must have at least a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/related courses.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Recruiter -- will work with the leaders of every department to establish and implement a recruiting strategy. He/she will have the ability to recruit for a variety of positions using innovative approaches in recruiting and appropriate tools. Must have at least a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science, Human Resource Management/related courses, and prior Human Resources or recruiting experience. Experience in Psychometrics is an advantage but not required.

INFONXX (Philippines), Inc., 11th Flr. RCBC Plaza Tower 2, Ayala Ave., cor Sen. Gil Puyat, Makati City
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SERVIER

SERVIER PHILIPPINES, INC.

We are the Philippine subsidiary of ***LES LABORATOIRES SERVIER****, the largest private pharmaceutical company in France. A multinational company with presence in over 150 countries and with more than 15,000 manpower,* ***SERVIER*** *is widely recognized for its research and development initiatives and highly respected for the quality of its ethical products worldwide.*

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT

Our candidate must be a graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science and not more than 27 years old. She must be a dynamic, patient, and self-driven individual with excellent organization, planning, communication, and interpersonal skills. She must have at least four years work experience in benefits administration, employee services and relations, recruitment and other human resources functions. She must be highly presentable and must possess a very pleasing personality. Computer proficiency is required.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY

Our ideal candidate is a college graduate and not more than 30 years old. She must have at least six years work experience as a Secretary, preferably with a multinational pharmaceutical company. To be considered candidates must have excellent communication, organization, planning, and interpersonal skills. She must be very personable and highly presentable. Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, and Powerpoint is required.

PAYROLL ANALYST

Our ideal candidate is an Accounting graduate and not more than 30 years old. He/she must be trustworthy, hardworking, and with good skills in organizing and communicating. Candidates must have at least two years work experience in Payroll processing and must have dealt with various government regulatory agencies like the BIR, SSS and Pag-ibig. He/she must be computer proficient and preferably with working knowledge of R&B payroll system, Visual Basic application, and Sunsystems.

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Candidates must be graduates of Accounting and not more than 25 years old. He / she must possess above average scholastic records, good communication and interpersonal skills. Moreover, he / she must have at least two years work experience in expense report processing and recording of transactions. Computer literacy is a must. Knowledge of any package system will be an added advantage.

Interested and qualified candidates are requested to submit their handwritten letter of application, resumé, transcript of records, diploma, and passport photo to the address below not later than November 03, 2003. Previous applicants need not apply.

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Human Resources Department
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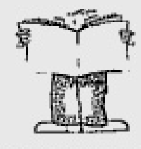

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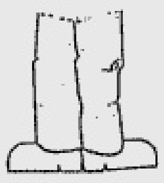

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JOB VACANCIES

MANILA CAMPUS

Position	Qualification
CHAIR MARINE ENGINEERING DEPT.	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree required or with at least 15 units in Master's and with appropriate Professional License, with shipboard experience, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate.
CHAIR ARCHITECTURE DEPT.	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree required for at least Bachelor's Degree, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate.
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling or Psychology, with at least one (1) year related work experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, female.
FACULTY MEMBERS Architecture Civil Engineering Computer Science Mathematics English Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time/part time.

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply personally with their resume, ID picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents at the:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila
Telephone No. 734-36-31

QUEZON CITY CAMPUS

Position	Qualification
HEAD OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Psychology or Guidance and Counseling, with at least five (5) years satisfactory teaching experience in the tertiary level and at least three (3) years of satisfactory administrative or managerial experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate, female.
CHAIR PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Physical Education, with an appropriate Professional License, preferably with at least three (3) years of satisfactory teaching experience and two (2) years of satisfactory managerial experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate.
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling or Psychology, preferably with one (1) year related work experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate, female.
FACULTY MEMBERS Accountancy Computer Engineering Electrical Engineering Electronics & Communications Engineering Marine Engineering Filipino Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time/part time.
LIBRARIAN	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science, with appropriate Professional License, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate.
CIVIC WELFARE TRAINING SERVICE FACILITATOR	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Guidance and Counseling or Social Work, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate female.
ACCOUNTING CLERK	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, preferably with work experience, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character, computer literate, female.
DRIVER	High School graduate with an active driver's license, knowledgeable in troubleshooting and car maintenance, with three (3) years work experience as driver (experience as a family driver is an advantage), of good moral character.

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply personally with their resume, ID picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents at the:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone No. 913-5852

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Civil Engineer with 3 to 8 years design experience. Knowledge in STAADIII/PRO and/or RISA3D for structural engineer position preferred. Knowledge in Inroads and/or Softdesk Landdev, Microstation and/or Autocad and background in sanitary engineering/building services for civil engineer position preferred. Knowledgeable in design development, material and labor estimate, scheduling. Can generate and/or check engineering calculations or sketches for detailed design. Can function as lead or back up lead and/or checker in a project. With strong technical background and articulate. Preferably with experience in infrastreucture, petrochemical, oil and gas on-shore / offshore, and light to heavy industrial facilities.

Piping Stress Engineers

Mechanical or Civil Engineer with a minimum of 5 years experience in Piping Stress Analysis. Knowledgeable in CAESAR II or AutoPIPE software. Capable in performing static and dynamic engineering analysis and supervisory tasks

Control Systems Design Engineers

Familiar with Control Systems Codes and Standards. Able to develop Instrument Specification and Data Sheets. Knowledgeable in sizing and selection of control valves, relief valves, and flow elements. Knowledgeable in DCS, PLC hardware specification and programming. Knowledgeable/experienced in Factory Acceptance Test (DCS, PLC, etc.) Able to participate in P&ID development. Has knowledge/experience with Control Systems engineering design tools such as Intools, PDMS, Material Management System, and PDS. Can function as Control Systems Lead in a project. Can review and check control systems design deliverables. Computer literate (MS Access, MS Excel, MS Word, and other MS Office softwares. Graduate of Engineering or other related course. Has a minimum 5 years related experience on Power, Oil, Gas & Chemicals Industry.

Preferred applicants
Must have good moral character/Must be a Registered Engineer/Knowledgeable in AutoCAD or Microstation/Computer Literate/Willing to be assigned overseas/With Offshore Experience an advantage/Fresh graduates are also welcome to apply.

Remuneration will depend on applicant's related experience on the above requirements.
Successful candidates can expect a competitive compensation along with a rewarding career and opportunities.
Interested applicants may send your application letter, resumé with picture, diploma, transcript of records and PRC ID to:

Ethel R. Castillo
Human Resources Department
3rd Flr. Asianstar Bldg., Asean Drive, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa
or email: <ethel.castillo@fluor.com>

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- Brand Managers
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- Accounting Assts/Auditors
- HR Managers
- HR Supervisors / Assts
- Exec Secretaries / Assts
- Secretaries
- IT / Telecoms Engineers
- Programmers
- Tellers / New Accounts
- Call Center Supervisors
- Call Center Agents
- QC Managers / Supervisors
- Warehouse/Logistics Mgrs
- Prod Control Mgr / Supvrs
- Production Mgrs/ Supvrs
- Maint. Supvrs/Engrs
- Process Spvrs / Engrs
- Engineers
- Management Trainees
- Engineers
- Pharmacists / Chemist

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✉ All interested applicants may forward their resumes and contact phone numbers to the address indicated above.

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Qualifications:

- *Preferably with the degree in Marketing or Hotel & Restaurant Management from a reputable school*
- *With at least (3) three years experience in overseeing and directing all aspects of sales operations, sales administration, advertising and public relations of a hotel or same industry*
- *Can very well execute and drive a Strategic Marketing Plan*
- *With excellent communication, leadership and managerial skills*

SALES MANAGER/EVENTS MANAGER
SALES COORDINATOR

Qualifications:

- *Male / Female, 25-35 years old, college graduate from a reputable school*
- *At least two (2) years experience in sales, hotel experience is a plus*
- *Articulate, resourceful and must possess a pleasing personality*
- *Customer focused, goal oriented and competitive*

TRAINING OFFICER

Qualifications:

- *25 - 35 years old, college graduate from a reputable school*
- *Certified Trainer of Train the Trainers Program and can design Training plans for all Departments*
- *Must possess a mature personality*
- *Excellent in oral & written communications*
- *Preferably two (2) years experience in handling all aspects of training and development of employees in a hotel or same industry*

RESTAURANT MANAGER

Qualifications:

- *28 to 40 years old*
- *Preferably a graduate of Hotel and Restaurant Management from a reputable school*
- *Equipped with an ability to execute a Food & Beverage Plan and optimize quality levels of products and services*
- *With excellent communication, leadership & managerial skills and can perform well under-pressure*
- *Hotel background is an advantage*

Interested applicants should be creative, highly motivated, posses a strong drive and are team players.

Please send your resume together with your recent 2x2 photo to:
The Human Resources Department, The Bellevue Manila
North Bridgeway, Northgate Cyberzone
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1781
Telephone No: 771 8181 • Fax No: 771 8282
e-mail address: thmnl@thebellevue.com.ph
Only qualified applicants will be called for interview.

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We are looking for:

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- 50 Spanish Speaking Representatives
- HR Manager
- Events Specialist / Fun Coordinator
- Front Desk Associate
- Sr. Network Engineer

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1) GHK AUDITOR
2) STRATEGIC PLANNING ASSISTANT
3) BACK-UP PLANNER

- ☐ Male/Female, 21-28 years old; pref. B.S. Industrial Engineering graduate.
- ☐ With or without experience; fresh graduates are encouraged to apply.
- ☐ With good scholastic records and excellent communication skills.
- ☐ Willing to be based in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

KAIZEN ENGINEER

- ☐ Male, 24-28 years old; Licensed Mechanical or Electrical Engineer.
- ☐ Analytical and has the drive to implement projects.
- ☐ With good interpersonal and leadership skills.
- ☐ Machine Shop skills an advantage but not required.
- ☐ Computer literate; CAD knowledge is a definite advantage.
- ☐ Place of Assignment: Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

Q.A. AUDITORS

- ☐ Male/Female, 22-27 years old; Graduates of B.S. ME, EE, ChE or IE.
- ☐ Experience not required but knowledge and exposure on ISO systems, quality inspections, SPC, dimensional measurements, etc. is a definite advantage.
- ☐ Will conduct process and product audits, perform process and equipment validations and certifications, assist in setting-up OPCR systems, SPC, and quality control points.
- ☐ Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

1) SPC ENGINEER
2) Q.A. SUPERVISOR

- ☐ Male/Female, 21-30 years old; B.S. M.E./ChE or Statistics graduate.
- ☐ Must have at least 2 years related work experience as Q.S./Q.A. Engineer preferably in a large manufacturing concern.
- ☐ Must have exposure on ISO 9000/14000, SPC, TQM, 5S, Kaizen and other Quality Systems.
- ☐ Excellent communication and leadership skills.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

- ☐ Male/Female, 25-30 years old; License not required but an advantage.
- ☐ With at least 2-3 years related work experience in a manufacturing environment.
- ☐ Must be articulate, hardworking, resourceful and results-oriented.
- ☐ Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

MECHANICAL SUPERVISOR

- ☐ Male, 25-35 years old; graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering.
- ☐ With experience in repair and maintenance of heavy equipment and dust filter baghouse and with skills in hydraulic and pneumatics.
- ☐ For Marilao, Bulacan assignment.

1) ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
2) AUDITOR

- ☐ Male/Female, 24-28 years old; B.S. Accounting graduate; preferably a CPA.
- ☐ Preferably with at least one year experience as an Accounting Supervisor and/or Auditor in a reputable company.
- ☐ With good scholastic records and adequate communication skills.

S.A.P. CONSULTANT TRAINEES

- ☐ Male/Female, 21-30 years old; Graduate of any four-year course. Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Those with I.T. experience have a definite advantage.
- ☐ Must be interested to build a career on S.A.P. Consultancy.
- ☐ With excellent scholastic records and communication skills.
- ☐ Flexible and with good leadership ability.

WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE.

THESE ARE ALL URGENT REQUIREMENTS. ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUMÉ, 2x2 PICTURE AND T.O.R. TO:

CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION (BATTERY GROUP)
RAMCAR CENTER
80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
E-mail: ebmuscat@motolite.com

✣ *Previous applicants need not apply.*

Rustan's

Urgently needs...

BRAND MANAGERS

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year Business related course preferably with excellent academic records
- With at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business in the same capacity
- Must be analytical, results oriented, artistic, creative and with good fashion sense
- Must have excellent communication skills

FINANCE MANAGERS

- Female, between 28 to 38 years old
- CPA, with at least work experience in Treasury, Financial Planning & Control, Accounting & Reconciliation, Budgeting and other related functions in a managerial capacity
- Must have high attention to detail and great numerical skills
- Highly motivated and results oriented
- Must be computer literate and an excellent leader

STORE MANAGERS

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year business related course
- Must have an extensive work exposure in Boutique/Store Operations
- Must have an exposure in sales, marketing, events and promotions management
- Must possess excellent customer service orientation
- Must have good communication and team management skills
- Willing to work on weekends and holidays

AUDIT ANALYSTS

- Female, between 21 to 27 years old
- BS-Industrial Engr. or Accounting graduate
- Preferably CPA and/or with related job experience in external or internal audit, accounting, methods systems analysis and designs
- With IT/Audit background
- Reliable, hardworking, trustworthy, with good moral character

FINANCIAL SUPERVISORS

- Between 21 to 35 years old
- Accounting graduate, computer literate
- Must be results oriented and highly analytical
- Preferably with related work experience
- Willing to work beyond regular working hours

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact numbers and recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
HROD Division
G/F, El Mercasol Bldg.,
EDSA, Mandaluyong City

Our business thrives on relationships.

ePacific Global offers the best solutions for connecting and serving customers.

We believe every contact with a customer is a chance to build and maintain a long business relationship.

*If you love customers the way we do, **start your relationship with us today!***

Call Center Agents (CCA)

- College graduate
- With or without experience
- With excellent communication skills
- Customer-oriented & highly motivated
- Can work under pressure
- Willing to work on shifts

Team Leader

- College graduate
- Excellent communication skills
- At least 1-year experience working in a call center
- Must be able to manage a team effectively by providing coaching and feedback
- Willing to work on shifts

Call Center Manager

- College graduate
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- At least 2 years working experience in a call center/service-oriented industry
- Must have had previous supervisory experience
- Must possess excellent managerial skills
- Willing to work on shifts

Recruitment Staff

- Graduate of Psychology or other related fields
- With 1–2 years working experience in HR, handling recruitment
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Can handle pressure

Recruitment Manager

- BS Psychology graduate or other related fields
- At least 3 years relevant experience handling recruitment as a specialist or in a supervisory capacity
- Excellent interpersonal skills, able to maintain effective interaction across all levels of the organization
- Experience in the call center industry is an advantage

Internal Audit Manager

- At least 3 years total managerial experience in internal and external auditing (risk-based)
- Certified Public Accountant
- Strong analytical skill and a high degree of objectivity
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Mature and professional mindset/behavior
- Highly resourceful

Call Center Agent applicants are encouraged to drop by our office every afternoon between 2 and 4, Mondays thru Fridays, for an immediate interview.

ePacific Global Contact Center Inc.

17th Floor Orient Square Bldg.
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Apply online at www.epacificglobal.com/careers
Fax: 687-0474

FOR IMMEDIATE POSTING

3 - Landscape Architects, 4 - Architects, 1 - Horticulturist
for Hangzhou City, China (near Shanghai)

Opportunity for growth and responsibility in a Singapore-based Landscape Architecture, Planning & Architecture firm expanding operations in mainland China.

Three (3) years minimum experience is required and familiarity with overseas design standards preferred. Knowledge of Mandarin is a plus but not a requirement.

Landscape Architects/Architects

- Primary work shall be generation and preparation of Schematic, Design Development and Contract Documents
- AutoCad and Photoshop/CorelDraw skills
- Good design, presentation and personal communication skills
- Education: Bachelor of Landscape Architecture/ Bachelor of Science in Architecture

Horticulturist

- Primary work shall be evaluation, research & preparation of planting design & specifications
- Microsoft Office and Windows skills are essential
- Knowledge of tropical and subtropical species
- Experience with construction implementation and maintenance preferred but not required
- Education: BS Agriculture Major in Horticulture

Please send resumés with contact information to the attention of
KT Lim, at dac@accessway.ph
or fax to (046) 973-2141

A Fast Growing Company is in immediate need of service-oriented and dynamic Professionals to be part of our innovative company.

• Marketing Officer

- ✓ Marketing graduate from an exclusive & reputable school
- ✓ Knowledgeable in developing proposals
- ✓ Knowledgeable in hardware/electrical items
- ✓ Effective in customer relations to achieve targets
- ✓ Dedicated and motivated
- ✓ Goal-oriented and able to work under pressure
- ✓ Fluent in oral & written communications (English)
- ✓ At least 25-30 years of age with pleasing personality

• Accounting Assistant

- ✓ Accounting Graduate from an exclusive & reputable school
- ✓ W/ at least 2 years working experience as an Accountant
- ✓ Dedicated and motivated
- ✓ Smart & Fast Learner
- ✓ Goal-oriented and able to work under pressure
- ✓ Fluent in oral & written communications (English & Chinese)
- ✓ At least 25-30 years of age with pleasing personality

***IF YOU THINK YOU ARE QUALIFIED & WANT TO MAKE IT BIG, Please send your resumé with your most recent picture at 2nd Flr., 280 San Fernando St., Binondo, Manila (5 mins. walking distance from Binondo Church) or send email at Sa_phils_corp@yahoo.com

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LITTELFUSE PHILIPPINES, INC.

We are a U.S. based company offering the broadest line of circuit protection products in the industry. In line with our expanding operations in the Philippines, we have immediate openings for the following positions:

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

- Bachelor's Degree in Electronics / Electrical or Mechanical Engineering or 3 years Technology Course
- Technical expertise in analyzing and diagnosing problems in Electrical / Electronic circuits
- Exceptional mechanical aptitude; trouble shooting / maintenance skills
- Knowledge of Programmable Logic Controllers is preferred
- Good oral & written English communication skills

MOLD/DIE TECHNICIAN

- Bachelor's Degree in Electronics / Electrical or Mechanical Engineering or 3 years Technology Course
- Semicon Company or related industry experience preferred
- 3-5 years experience in maintaining mold/die machines
- Knowledgeable in molding equipment, tooling and fabrication
- Good oral and written English communication skills

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL ENGINEER

- Engineering degree holder preferably B.S. Ch.E.
- At least 5 years experience in pollution control and waste management in industry setting preferably Electronics
- Knowledgeable and experienced in ISO 14000 criteria and certification
- Proficient in oral and written English

SENIOR QUALITY ASSURANCE ENGINEER

- Engineering Degree
- Must have at least a minimum 3 years relevant experience in developing and implementing systems and in depth quality audits gained from electronics or semicon industries
- Knowledge and experience in ISO9000 implementation a must.
- Knowledge in principle and practice of corrective action using 5 Why's and 8D methodologies
- Failure Analysis, DOE, SPC knowledge a plus
- Must have a strong communication skills, attention to details, result oriented, innovative and creative
- Must have self motivated, able to handle complex tasks and assignments and a strong sense for team work

MANUFACTURING and/or PROCESS ENGINEER

Successful candidate will drive cost reductions and process improvements, coordinate new production line start-ups, and develop equipment. Applicants should have:

- Engineering Degree – preferably Mechanical or Industrial
- Minimum of two years experience in an industrial setting
- Experience with manufacturing equipment and/or processes
- Proven project management ability
- Good in oral and written English
- Supervisory experience is a plus
- Knowledge of quality and problem solving tools is a plus.

These positions offers opportunity for growth and training in the U.S. Salary is commensurate with skill level and experience.

You may send your resumé to:
rkalaw@littelfuse.com.ph
aquindoza@littelfuse.com.ph

Littelfuse Philippines, Inc.
Lima Technology Center
Lipa City-Malvar, Batangas

ADTX Systems, Inc. (formerly APTI-Philippines, Inc.), a Research and Development company and wholly-owned subsidiary of Advanced Technology and Systems Co., Ltd. (ADTX) of Japan would like to invite highly-motivated IT professionals to fill-up the following posts for our Makati, Alabang and Cebu offices:

SOFTWARE DESIGN ENGINEERS
[Position Code: AD03-001]

Successful candidates shall be tasked to design and develop software applications. To qualify, applicants should present the following credentials:

- Graduate of any 4 or 5 year Computer-related course; not more than 30 years old;
- W/ at least 2 years industry experience using C/C++, C#, Java or J2EE;
- Must be proficient in MS Windows environment;
- Experience in Linux and UNIX environment, XML & other web-related technologies would be an advantage;
- Applicants with skills in Japanese language will be given preference.

MICROCODE/FIRMWARE ENGINEERS
[Position Code: AD03-002]

Successful candidates shall be tasked to design and develop firmware for embedded systems. To qualify, applicants should present the following credentials:

- Graduate of any 4 or 5 year Computer-related course; not more than 30 years old;
- W/ at least 2 years experience in developing embedded systems;
- Must be proficient in C/C++ and Assembly language programming;
- RTOS knowledge would be an advantage;
- Applicants with skills in Japanese language will be given preference.

PRODUCT QUALITY ASSURANCE ENGINEERS
[Position Code: AD03-003]

Successful candidates shall be tasked to perform actual qualification of latest notebook computers. To qualify, applicants should present the following credentials:

- Graduate of any 4 or 5 year Computer-related course; not more than 30 years old;
- W/ at least 3 years experience in any of the ff fields: Hardware or Software QA, technical support, systems and network administration or MIS;
- Must be skilled in PC and operating system set-up and configuration;
- Knowledge in Networking technologies;
- Microsoft Certified Professional, Microsoft Certified Software Engineer or equivalent certification would be an advantage;
- Applicants with skills in Japanese language will be given preference.

Our company offers outstanding opportunities to work with Top Multinational IT companies worldwide, an attractive remuneration package commensurate to qualifications, career advancement, Japanese language training and a chance to travel overseas to successful candidates.

Interested applicants are invited to send their application letter, resume, transcript of records and recent 2x2 picture to the address stated below stating position code.

For Luzon/Manila-based applicants:
ADTX Systems, Inc.
c/o Human Resource Department
5F Citibank-Frabelle Building, Madrigal Business Park
Alabang-Zapote Road, Muntinlupa City 1770
Tel. Nos. 807-5521 local 6165
E-mail address: jobs@adtxsystems.com (text only)
Website:: www.adtxsystems.com

For Visayas/Mindanao-based applicants:
ADTX Systems, Inc.
5th Floor PDI Condominium
Arch. Reyes Avenue, Banilad,
Cebu City 6000
Tel. Nos. (032) 231-0321
Email address: cebujobs@adtxsystems.com
Website:: www.adtxsystems.com

Philippine AXA Life

WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST TO BE PART OF THE FIRST AND THE BEST...

Philippine AXA Life, a joint venture between Metrobank, one of the largest banks in the Philippines, and the AXA Group, one of the world's largest life insurers, is looking for enthusiastic, results-oriented and highly competitive candidates to join its elite BankAssure work force who has preference working or residents of METRO MANILA, OLONGAPO, DAGUPAN, BATANGAS, LAGUNA, PAMPANGA, BAGUIO, BENGUET, LA UNION and DAVAO.

BANKASSURE AREA MANAGERS (BAM)

The position entails motivating, inspiring and leading a team of professional advisers to meet sales targets by objectively evaluating and assessing performance against agreed standards.

QUALIFICATIONS:
☐ 25 – 40 years old
☐ Must be a college graduate with at least 2 years business experience with a successful track record in sales or customer service environment.
☐ Must have supervisory experience

FINANCIAL EXECUTIVES (FE)

The position entails meeting with clients, analyzing their personal financial background, advising them on appropriate action to be taken and concluding the sale of appropriate products and services and a lot of relationship building.

QUALIFICATIONS:
☐ 25 – 35 years old
☐ Must be a College graduate with at least 2 years professional experience with a successful track record not necessarily in the Financial Services Industry
☐ A background in pharmaceutical, airlines, stock trading, real estate, retail sales, banking or insurance will be an advantage

SKILLS & QUALITIES OF THE AREA MANAGER & FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE:

☐ Good interpersonal skills
☐ Excellent oral & written communication skills (Ability to speak Chinese will be an advantage)
☐ Sound analytical / numerical skills
☐ Effective judgment and comprehension
☐ Confident disposition/positive nature & outlook
☐ Ability to listen

**Qualified candidates should send their resumé, transcript of records and a 2" x 2" photo by Friday, 31st of October 2003 to
THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 2390, Makati City or may.soneja@axa.com.ph or fax: (02) 844-3911**

Philippine AXA Life will offer chosen candidates a salary-based package plus excellent incentives, comprehensive training, and a very rewarding career in the financial services industry.

Member of the Metrobank

Aboitiz Logistics, Inc.

Combining the experience and commitment of our Logistics Consultants with our Passion for better ways, Aboitiz Logistics delivers comprehensive logistics solutions.

Aboitiz Logistics Incorporated is part of the Aboitiz Transport Group, the transportation arm of the Aboitiz Group of Companies. The Aboitiz Group of Companies has a diverse portfolio of business interests in energy production and distribution, financial services, food, infrastructure and transportation by air, land & sea.

Our primary strategy is about people. It is built around the principle that create enthusiastic teams who get things done, teams who execute right on target.

We are inviting aggressive and results-oriented individuals who want to start an exciting career in logistics.

We are looking for ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

(for Metro Manila, Laguna, Subic, Cavite & Cebu)

Basic Requirements/Qualifications:

Education:	Graduate of a 4-yr course preferably in Business Administration or Management
Experience:	Minimum of 2 years sales and marketing experience preferably from freight-forwarding or logistics company
Personal attributes:	Excellent interpersonal relations, good follow-thru, persistent, patient, above average negotiation skills, has strong drive to meet aggressive sales target, with self-confidence and pleasing personality, good coordination skills, excellent customer service skills, above average oral and written communication skills

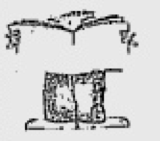
Competency Requirements:
Develop and generate new business from new accounts
Able to negotiate the appropriate rates
Able to solicit referrals that can lead into a possible sales generating account
Knowledgeable in import/export procedures
Maintain existing customers and address specific concerns
Expand support from existing customer by getting new business/trade
Do market studies and identify/know activities of competition
Develop good contacts among exporters and importers

If you feel you are the one we are looking for, send us your comprehensive curriculum vitaé with 2x2 colored photo to:

**The Human Resources Manager
MCPO Box 1766, Makati City**

**You can also send email at:
ATG_Logistics_HR_Team@aboitizone.com.ph**

Where you find the best.



JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

Multinational Corporation supplying the Construction Industry with Architectural products invites applicants for the position of

SALES ENGINEER

- University degree holder, engineering or architecture
- Minimum 2 years experience working in a similar position is an advantage but not essential
- 25 to 32 years old
- Computer literate
- Has valid driver's license
- Must have good communication skills, hardworking and trustworthy

Appear in person for interview on October 27, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.

**BORAL PLASTERBOARD PHILIPPINES
Keynet Compound, Mercury Avenue corner
E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Libis, Quezon City**

Attention: I.T. Professionals

STSI
The IT Company of METROBANK

Systematics Technology Services, Inc. (STSI), the information technology company of Metrobank is in search of candidates for the following positions:

Analyst/Programmer (Mainframe)
- Proficient in Systematics Banking or CardLinK Credit Card applications
- At least 2 years experience in programming under MVS, COBOL, CICS

Analyst/Programmer (Oracle)
- Proficient in Oracle development tools (Developer2000, 6i and 9i IDS), Oracle RDBMS, PL/SQL
- At least 2 years experience in Oracle development tools

Analyst/Programmer (Visual Basic)
- Proficient in Visual Basic 6.0, SQL Server 2000, MS Access 97/2000, Oracle RDBMS
- At least 2 years experience in client/server applications development
- Preferably with experience in web applications development using ASP, JavaScript and IIS

Customer Service Representative (Help Desk Personnel)
- Position will handle help desk functions for banking applications
- At least 1 year experience in a banking position

Systems Analyst
- Proficient in the functions and operations of the Systematics banking application
- At least 2 years experience in Systematics banking application

Operations Analyst
- At least 2 years experience in systems administration of client-server & open systems

Process Analyst
- Proficient in software development life cycle, software engineering methodology, and process improvement
- At least 4 years systems development experience, preferably in banking environment; mainframe experience preferred

Test Analyst
- At least 4 years experience in software testing and/or development, preferably in banking environment; mainframe experience preferred.

Web Designer
- Proficient in CSS, HTML, DHTML, Javascript, Dreamweaver, Flash, Photoshop and other design and programming tools and languages; Knowledge in ASP programming preferred
- At least 2 years experience in web and graphic design

**Please send your resumé to:
Systematics Technology Services, Inc. (STSI)**
Human Resource Management Department
11th Floor, PS Bank Center (former Solidbank Building)
777 Paseo De Roxas, Makati City. Tel. No. 811-4855 local 2058 look for Bam or Mitch
Fax. No. 811-4855 local 2011, E-mail Address: itcabbab@stsi.com.ph

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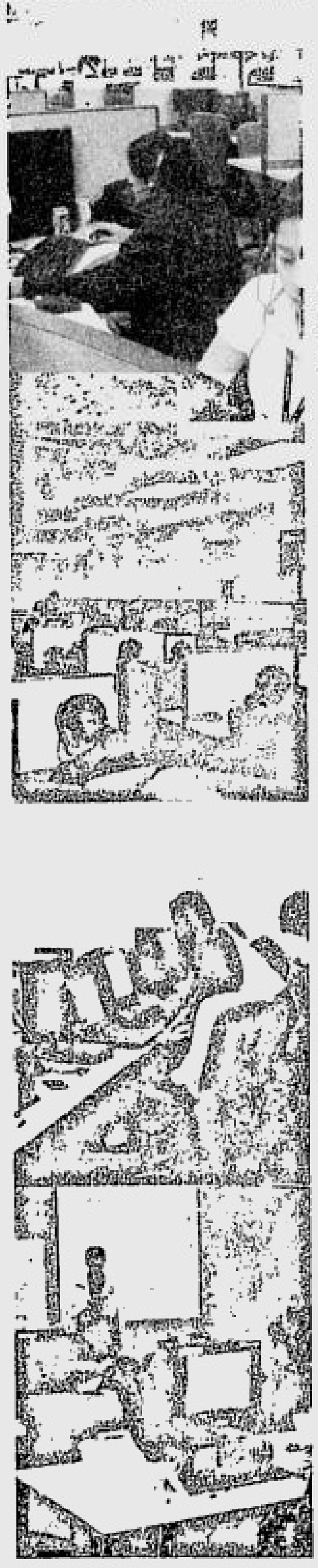
Link2Support



BUILD YOUR CAREER, GROW WITH US

Link2Support Inc., is a world class technical contact center which is operational 24/7. It was originally established to render phone, email and chat support to clients of LINKSYS®, a division of Cisco Systems.

Now, Link2Support also offers web and multimedia development and system integration as well. Link2Support has a workforce of over 800 Product Support Representatives, composed mainly of licensed Engineers and degree holders of IT -related courses who are fluent in conversational English, highly skilled and knowledgeable with the latest trends in computer networking.

Our vibrant environment and state-of-the-art facilities make us an ideal partner in jumpstarting your career in the field of new-age information technology.

Join us and experience the opportunity to work in a dynamic environment highlighted with opportunities for continuous certified-in-house and overseas technical and career development trainings

We are in search of vibrant and highly-motivated individuals who have excellent English communication skills and who are willing to work in shifting schedules to fill up the following positions in our local and US sites:

Philippine Office requirement

PRODUCT SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVES — *Responsible for providing excellent technical support and customer service to clients all over the world.*
- College graduates of any IT-related course, preferably ECE and CoE
- Familiar with computer networking concepts and PC Troubleshooting
- Call center experience will be an advantage

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT — *Responsible for analyzing financial reports and information pertaining to the company's finances*
- College graduate of BS Accountancy
- CPA License is required
- With at least 5 years related work experience in a supervisory level and adept with Taxation Laws

US Office requirement

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER — *Responsible for marketing the company's various business process outsourcing (BPO) solutions to corporate clients and manage accounts by liaising between the clients and the contact center's headquarters.*
- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Marketing or any IT-related field.
- Must at least have 5-10 years of work experience in Corporate Sales or a related field, 3 years of which in a managerial capacity
- With a proven track record of achievement in corporate sales and account management, preferably from the IT, Telecommunications or Call Center Industries
- Must possess the necessary skills required for solution selling: excellent communication (verbal and written), presentation and coordination skills

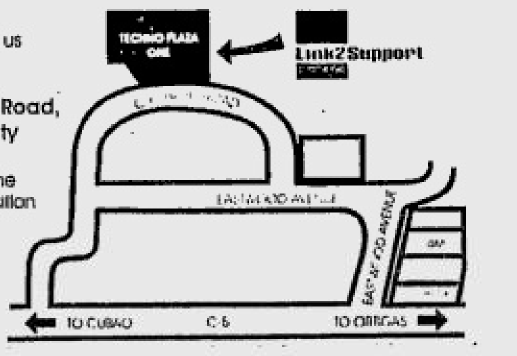
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE — *The candidate shall be responsible for assisting the Sales Manager in marketing the company's various solutions to corporate clients by implementing sales and promotional programs.*
- Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, Marketing or any IT-related field.
- With at least 2-4 years of work experience in Corporate Sales or any related field
- Must have background with sales and account management
- Must possess the necessary skills required for solution selling: excellent communication (verbal and written), presentation and coordination

For an immediate interview for **Product Support Representative** applications, visit us from Monday to Friday 9 am-6 pm at

5th Floor TechnoPlaza One Bdlg., Orchard Road, Eastwood City Cyberpark, Libis, Quezon City

Applicants for other positions may send their resume to **recruitment@link2support.com**, indicating position applied for as the subject of the message.

You may also visit our website at **www.link2support.com**
or call us at **423-8700**



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UNDP

NRE Non-Utility Generation (NUG) Advisor

I. Scope of Work

The NRE Non-Utility Generation (NUG) Advisor shall provide policy advice to the different Project committees and units relating to renewable energy non-utility generation. The NUG Advisor shall perform the following tasks:

1. Provide advice and technical inputs for policy analysis and evaluation processes for the operationalization of Project committees (e.g. Renewable Energy Inter-Agency Committee) and units;
2. Review, analyze and recommend policies as well as incentive provisions of the draft RE Bill and harmonize the same with existing laws, regulations, and other issuances such as EPIRA 2001, MEDP, Clean Air Act, WESM Rules, Grid and Distribution Codes, WESM Market Model, ERC ordinances and rulings, Mini-hydro Act, etc.;
3. Design and develop strategies for the conduct of RE Bill consultation meetings and advocacy activities;
4. Provide technical assessment/evaluation of inputs/proposals as well as recommend policy studies to be implemented by the Project and its Consultants;
5. Provide inputs and assist in the preparation of the draft Implementing Rules and Regulations of the RE Bill; and
6. Provide technical advice and inputs to the:
   a. RE Electricity Planning Model and the RE Integrated Planning Model; and
   b. Preparation of the Policy M&E System

II. Deliverables

1. Inception report including developmental plan for the implementation of a national RE database;
2. All materials and written reports as specified by the TOR; and
3. Mechanics/protocols for:
   a. Data collection
   b. Validation
   c. Updating
   d. Dissemination
   e. Access

III. Duration of the Assignment

The duration of the services of the NRE NUG Advisor shall be 1.5 person-months.

IV. Qualifications

1. A degree in law;
2. At least 10 years experience on the formulation of policy and legislation for the promotion of NRE projects;
3. At least 5 years experience on energy policy development and regulation in a developing country context;
4. At least 5 years experience and familiarity with technical, legal and institutional aspects of NUGs;
5. At least 5 years experience and familiarity with Power Purchase Agreements and in the negotiations for the same; and
6. At least 5 years experience in/working knowledge of renewable energy generating systems

Policy Expert

I. Scope of Work

The Renewable Energy Policy Expert shall provide technical advice on policy matters and assistance in setting up and mobilization of the Renewable Energy Inter-Agency Committee (REIAC), the Market Service Center (MSC), and other Project Units, specific tasks of the Policy Expert shall be as follows:

1. Provide policy recommendations on the various components of the CBRED Project;
2. Develop Project Operational Guidelines/Manuals;
3. Review, analyze and recommend policies as well as incentive provisions for the draft RE Bill and harmonize the same with existing laws, regulations and other issuances such as EPIRA 2001, MEDP, Clean Air Act, WESM Rules, Grid and Distribution Codes, WESM Market Model, ERC ordinances and rulings, Mini-hydro Act, etc.;
4. In coordination with other Project Consultants, draft Implementing Rules and Regulations for the RE Bill;
5. Recommend minimum training requirements of and draft training program for the MSC and other Project stakeholders; and
6. Establish and implement a monitoring and evaluation system to determine the impact of enforcement of policy, pricing and regulatory measures that may be developed by the Project.

II. Deliverables

1. Inception report with detailed timeline;
2. Establish the REIAC and other project-related units;
3. Approved REIAC and PMO operational guidelines;
4. Policy proposals/studies on the NRE Bill;
5. Draft the NRE Bill Implementing Rules and Regulations;
6. A monitoring and evaluation system for NRE policy implementation using results-based management and monitoring principles; and
7. Training Needs Assessment and Training Program for Policy Development and on the use of the Policy Monitoring and Evaluation System.

III. Duration of the Assignment

The duration of the services of the Policy Expert shall be two and a half (2.5) person-months.

IV. Qualifications

1. A postgraduate degree in law, environment, energy, or business;
2. At least 5 years proven experience in dealing with legal, policy and regulatory issues on renewable energy development in the Philippines (preferably in policy analysis and formulation); and
3. At least 3 years experience/working knowledge in RE project development
4. Although the CBRED Project offers an equal employment opportunity, only Filipino professionals are invited to apply for this specific position.

Training Program Expert

I. Scope of Work

The CBRED Project shall conduct a series of training activities as part of its capacity building/enhancement program. The training activities will be national and sub-national in scope.

The Training Program Expert shall be tasked with the following:

1. Assess the actual training needs of the PMO, MSC, DOE and other NRE stakeholders;
2. Work closely with PMO and MSC staff in developing a 3-year training program, in coordination with appropriate training institutions, including the development of a curriculum and design of training modules;
3. Conduct of training needs assessment;
4. Identify appropriate Project training activities and appropriate Training Institution for each training activity, which shall be selected based on their ability to integrate the proposed trainings to their respective programs to ensure replication and sustainability;
5. Develop a framework/plan for the 3-year training program, which should clearly identify target participants, training approaches, and systems for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the program; and
6. Design and develop Training Module Kits for each recommended training activity;
7. Provide/Identify/Specify technical and budgetary requirements for each training module.

II. Deliverables

1. Inception report with detailed timeline;
2. Assessment report of training needs of NRE Stakeholders;
3. Shortlist of approved training activities;
4. Framework and design for the comprehensive NRE Training Program including a monitoring and evaluation system, teaching manuals for the conduct of the program;
5. Institutional framework and draft contracts for organizations/agencies implementing the Training Program;
6. Curriculum materials/training modules in formats ready for reproduction; and
7. A database of training materials.

III. Duration of the Assignment

The duration of the services of the Training Expert shall be two and a half (2.5) man-months.

IV. Qualifications

1. A degree in teaching/communication/psychology discipline; Master's Degree would be an advantage;
2. At least 5 years experience in the design and execution of training programs;
3. At least 5 years experience in the design and production of training materials suitable for a range of post-secondary users;
4. Understanding of and/or experience with NRE;
5. Excellent communication and facilitation skills; and
6. Computer literate.

To assist the Screening Committee in evaluating the applications for all three positions, please include a two-page paper with the following content:

a. How you would undertake the tasks required (process and methods included);
b. Brief explanation of what is required and expected from the position in the execution of the tasks;
c. How would your previous work experience, existing networks, educational background will enable you to complete the tasks outlined;
d. Include an indicative timeframe for TOR activities

All application letters, two-page paper and comprehensive resumés should reach our office on or before 7 November 2003. Address applications to the Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 7th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail), tel. nos. 892-0611 to 25 loc. 386/275.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

This advertisement shall remain posted in www.undp.org.ph until November 7, 2003.

A CAREER WITH MAGSAYSAY AWAITS YOU...

MAGSAYSAY MARITIME CORPORATION is a prestigious company engaged in Ship Owning, Ship Management, Training and Crew Manning Operations offering fulfilling careers on board international cargo and luxury cruise ships.

Below are some of our openings:

For Luxury Cruise Ships:

- Cooks (all Levels)
- Masseuse
- Beauticians
- Bartenders
- Waiters/Waitresses
- Restaurant Stewardess
- Galley and Hotel Utility
- Hotel Staff Apprentice
- Cabin Stewards/Stewardesses
- Bar Waiters/Waitresses
- Bar Boys
- Laundrymen

For Navigation – Cargo Ships:

- Masters
- Chief Mates
- Second Mates
- Chief Engineers
- First Asst. Engineers
- Second Engineers
- Chief Cooks
- Electricians

Applicants for cargo ship positions must have at least 12 months shipboard experience onboard oil or chemical tankers in the position they are applying for. Applicants for luxury cruise ship positions must have at least 6 months work experience in 3-5 star hotels or fine dining restaurants except for Hotel Staff Apprentice which do not require any work experience but should be HRM or Tourism graduates. Please indicate accurate height measurement in your resumé. Interested applicants may fill-up our online application form in our website: www.magsaysay.com.ph and apply at:

RECRUITMENT CENTER
Main Office: 520 T.M. Kalaw St. Ermita, Manila
Cebu Office: 108 F. Ramos St., Cebu City
Davao Office: 49 Palma Gil St., Davao City
Accreditation #: 23538-1, 23015-10, 24454-1, 23949-2, 22593-3
MMI-0S-162-2B-111594/R-MLI-OS-145-SB-10394-R

For applicants who need to take personality development and skills upgrading courses, you may take any of the following at:

MAGSAYSAY TRAINING CENTER

- DINING ROOM STEWARD COURSE
- HOUSEKEEPING STEWARD COURSE
- BAR STEWARD COURSE
- GALLEY STEWARD COURSE
- RESTAURANT SERVICE TRAINING
- HOUSEKEEPING SERVICE TRAINING
- GALLEY SERVICE TRAINING
- SHIPBOARD FAMILIARIZATION/ BASIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- FRONT OFFICE SERVICE TRAINING
- GENERAL UTILITY COURSE
- FOREIGN LANGUAGES

For schedule of training, please inquire at:

Hospitality Services and Culinary Arts Department
2nd Floor, Shipping Center Building
A. Soriano Jr. St., Intramuros, Manila
Tel. Nos.: (632) 527-7268, 527-6160, 528-1627, 528-0142
E-mail: mtc-hsca@magsaysay.com.ph

For *NURSES* and other *ALLIED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS*, train with the *EXPERTS.*

CGFNS NCLEX TOEFL TSE IELTS TOEIC

For schedule of classes, please inquire at:

MAGSAYSAY GLOBAL SERVICES, INC.
2nd Floor, Shipping Center Building
A. Soriano Jr. St., Intramuros, Manila
Tel. Nos.: (632) 527-7268, 527-6160, 528-1627, 528-0142
E-mail: magsaysayglobal@magsaysay.com.ph

SENIOR PROGRAMMERS

A company servicing international offices immediately requires Senior Programmers, He/She will work with the global team in supporting the firm's applications systems as well as developing and maintaining windows and browser based applications.

Job Responsibilities

- Software Development
- Liaise with users on requirements and develop documentation
- Support and Maintenance of Existing applications

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science or related degree
- Not more than 30 years old
- Work experience on the following development tools is required: VB.NET, ASP.NET, HTML, JavaScript and VBScript
- Object Oriented Programming
- SQL Server 7/2000
- Crystal Reports 8/9
- Report Application Server
- Familiar with UML (Unified Modeling Language)
- Experience with NUnit Package
- Enjoy solving problems and working independently as well as in a team
- Ability to work in a "virtual team"
- Good communication skills in both oral and written
- Ability to work to deadlines and work under pressure
- Willing to travel on short notices
- Willing to work on shifting schedules

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2 x 2 picture and other credentials to (please indicate current salary):

B&M Support Centre, Inc.
12th Floor, Net One Center
26th Street Corner 3rd Avenue, Crescent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila
Mail to: bmsc.hr@bakernet.com

(Previous applicants need not apply)

SHDA GUARANTY FUND, INC.

Invites applicants for:

CIVIL ENGINEER

With minimum of 5 years working experience in residential subdivision and condominium projects. The candidate must be highly skilled in operational planning, budgetary costing and implementation of housing projects. Skills in the computer, oral/ written communications, human relations shall be highly preferred.

Submit application letter indicating desired salary with ID photo and resumé to the Personnel Officer, 2/F Phinma Building, Salcedo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Immediate Vacancies for Saudi Arabia

NO PLACEMENT / NO PROCESSING FEE

AL-SUWAIDI INDUSTRIAL SERVICES CO.LTD.

A leading ISO 9002 industrial services provider in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia dealing with Plant Construction, Maintenance, Human Resources Supply and Scaffolding services for Refineries, Gas Plants Petrochemical Plants, Power Plants etc.

MAINTENANCE PLANNERS – BSME, min. 5 yrs. exp. with primavera & other planning software

MAINTENANCE MILLWRIGHTS

VEHICLE MECHANICS (GAS/DIESEL)

HVAC TECHNICIANS

OVERHEAD CRANE OPERATORS

MINIMUM 3 YEARS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED FOR OTHER TRADES

INTERESTED APPLICANTS PLEASE REPORT FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH THE FOLLOWING:

Original and two sets copies of detailed resume, employment certificates, diplomas, PRC Certificate / ID if available, training / seminars certificate, valid passport, driving license if available and two pcs 2 x 2 colored photograph

GBMLT MANPOWER SERVICES, INC.

POEA LICENSE NO.251-LB-051402-R

MANILA:1537 M.H. Del Pilar St., Ermita, Mla
Tel. 5258482-85 / Fax: 5212884
e-mail: gbmlt@compass.com.ph

CEBU: Suite 2F Gemini bldg. M. J. Cuenco Ave.
Cebu City
Telefax : (032) 416-72-27

MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER. FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY.
NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED

A PROGRESSIVE SERVICE COMPANY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

ASST. TO THE PRODUCTION MANAGER

Industrial or Mechanical Engineering graduate; w/ 3-4 yrs. experience in production operation; not more than 35 yrs. old; proficient in oral and written communication; computer literate.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

College graduate; with 3-5 yrs. experience; personable and confident in dealing with people; computer literate.

HR ASSISTANT

Female, BS Psychology or Behavioral Science graduate; with office work experience in HR and admin operation; proficient in oral & written communication; computer literate

Send your resumé with 2 x 2 picture and
transcript of records to:
Unit E 20-B Twin Tower Condominium
6737 Ayala Ave., 1226 Makati City

A DOCUMENT PROCESSING CENTER FOR AN INTERNATIONAL FIRM INVITES APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION OF:

DOCUMENT PROCESSORS/ DESKTOP PUBLISHING STAFF
(DAY AND NIGHT SHIFTS)

- male or female
- college graduate from reputable schools
- excellent English communications and typing skills
- highly computer literate with knowledge in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Photoshop, PageMaker and Quark
- willing to be assigned to different shifts
- experience with recorders and transcribers preferred
- experience in desktop publishing, advertising and production of marketing materials a plus

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2 x 2 picture, and other credentials to (please indicate current salary):

B&M SUPPORT CENTRE, INC.
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street Corner 3rd Avenue, Crescent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila
email to: bmsc.hr@bakernet.com
(Previous applicants need not apply)

Be Part of Our Growing Team

STORE SUPERVISORS/OIC
- ✓ Male/Female; College Grad; 23-27 yrs old
- ✓ Computer Literate
- ✓ Possess strong leadership qualities
- ✓ Analytical; Responsible, Trustworthy
- ✓ At least one year experience in Retail/ Sales

LIAISON OFFICERS/COLLECTORS
- ✓ Male/Female; 22-30 yrs old
- ✓ College Level
- ✓ Computer Literate; Preferably with 1-2 yrs experience
- ✓ Can work w/ a minimum supervision
- ✓ Can work full time; hardworking
- ✓ Diligent & Trustworthy

BICYCLE TECHNICIANS
- ✓ Male; 18-28 yrs old; single; College level
- ✓ Can work w/ a minimum supervision
- ✓ Can work full time; hardworking;
- ✓ Diligent; Trustworthy; A Team player
- ✓ Has a Pleasing Personality
- ✓ Experience in sales is a plus
- ✓ Experience in assembling bike is a must

DRIVERS
- ✓ Male; 25-35 yrs old
- ✓ At least 2nd yr college
- ✓ Preferably w/ 2 yrs experience
- ✓ Can work full time; hardworking
- ✓ Reliable & Trustworthy
- ✓ With Professional Driver's License

OFFICE ASSISTANTS
- ✓ Male/Female; 21-25 yrs old;
- ✓ College Grad; preferably Psycho. Grad
- ✓ Computer Literate;
- ✓ Creative Thinker & Results Oriented

SALES LADIES/SALES MEN
- ✓ Male/Female; 20-28 yrs old
- ✓ College Level
- ✓ At least 5'2" in height
- ✓ Experience in sales is a plus
- ✓ Can work w/ a minimum supervision
- ✓ Can work full time; hardworking & trustworthy
- ✓ Has a Pleasing Personality

CASHIERS
- ✓ Female; 18-28 yrs old; College Level
- ✓ Experience in sales & cashiering is a plus
- ✓ Can work w/ a minimum supervision
- ✓ Can work full time; hardworking & trustworthy
- ✓ Has a Pleasing Personality

Send your resumé with recent 2x2 colored picture
Not later than November 30, 2003 to:

CYCLE SHACK

CONLE MARKETING CORPORATION
# 13 Bldg. A, Lower GF SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City 4103
Or email us at cycleshack_hrd@yahoo.com

A US-based Multi-national company engaged in power generation is looking for experienced and highly skilled applicants to fill in the need for:

ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT (1)

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under Supervision, is responsible for coordinating and supervising the day-to-day activities of the Maintenance group and for assisting the Maintenance Superintendent in the technical supervision as well as the administrative functions of the Maintenance Department. Other regular duties and responsibilities are as follows:

- Reviews and assists in establishing day-to-day work order priorities, planning and scheduling work, and inspecting and approving completed work.
- Oversees and provides technical assistance and safety training as required on the tasks performed by the various Maintenance personnel.
- Assists in directing the development of maintenance procedures and instructions and in the evaluation and development of recommendations for plant improvements.
- Assists in directing the Maintenance Department and working closely with all other departments to provide uninterrupted service.
- Develops, implements, and administers Maintenance Department policies and procedures.
- Develops and implements programs to improve productivity of the maintenance group.
- Inspects work in process and at completion to ensure that standards of workmanship and safety are maintained.
- Participates in the employee problem-solving procedure.
- Oversees general shift, overtime, and vacation scheduling to ensure proper staffing levels and availability of back-up employees.
- Develops, implements, and administers training programs for plant maintenance personnel.
- Supervises and coordinates the activities of Maintenance Supervisors, Maintenance Engineers, and Maintenance Rank and File Employees.
- Directs the Maintenance Department in the absence of the Maintenance Superintendent.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Filipino; willing to take on a provincial assignment.
- A graduate of Mechanical, Electrical, or Chemical Engineering or Engineering Technology or equivalent.
- With 6-8 years management/supervisory experience.
- With basic/advanced management and leadership skills/competencies.
- Strong interpersonal skills with people from all levels of the organization, including expats.
- Has comprehensive knowledge of power plant equipment and principles of operation, preferably in a coal-fired power station.
- Strong technical knowledge/background in Mechanical, Electrical, or Instrumentation Maintenance.
- Has the ability to read and interpret blueprints, schematics, and instruction manuals.
- Possesses technical report writing skills; computer literate.
- Familiar with Electronic Maintenance Management System.

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive Resumé with contact numbers and most recent 2" x 2" photo to:

The Human Resource Department
P.O. Box 206,
Quezon Capital Post Office,
Lucena City, Quezon

Honda Cars Makati, Inc.
MAKATI • PASIG • ALABANG • SHAW

Honda Cars Makati, Inc., the first Honda Cars dealership in the Philippines and the benchmark of excellent customer service in the automotive industry, invites you to join its prestigious team as:

Sales Executive
Code: SE ♦ A, B, C, D
- Male or female, 21 – 30 years old
- College graduate of any business course
- Previous sales experience an advantage
- Must be computer literate
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Hardworking, aggressive and resourceful
- Pleasant personality
- With valid driver's license

Marketing Services Officer
Code: MSO ♦ C
- Male or female, 24 – 35 years old
- Graduate of Marketing Management, Mass Communications or Business Management
- With at least 2 years supervisory experience in the same capacity and with 3 – 5 years experience in coordinating, organizing and implementing events marketing
- Must have very good press/media relations; preferably with exposure to market research and media practitioners in print, radio and television
- Highly computer literate
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent customer handling and interpersonal relations skills
- Service-, customer-, results-oriented, pleasant and with positive attitude

Customer Relations Assistant
Code: CRA ♦ B
- Male or female, 25 – 30 years old
- Graduate of Marketing, Advertising, Mass Communications, or Business Management
- With experience in marketing research and customer-handling
- Must be computer literate
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Service-, customer-, results-oriented, pleasant and with positive attitude

Accounting Assistant
Code: AA ♦ C
- Male or female, 23 – 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Accountancy, Certified Public Accountant
- With at least 2 years experience in General Accounting and adequate exposure in preparing and analyzing financial statements
- Proficient in Microsoft Office
- Knowledge in SAP-FI/CO modules an advantage
- Excellent customer handling and interpersonal skills
- Results- and people-oriented, ability to work under pressure and with minimum supervision and assertive

Service Customer Assistant
Code: SCA ♦ B
- Male or female, 20-30 years old
- Graduate of any business course, with Accounting background
- With at least 1 year experience in customer-handling
- Must be computer literate
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Service- and customer-oriented, self-motivated, can work under pressure and with good interpersonal skills

HR Assistant
Code: HRA ♦ C
- Male or female, 21 - 25 years old
- Graduate of BS Psychology or any related course
- With at least 1 year experience in HR-related work
- Knowledgeable in interviewing and testing
- Must have above average oral and written communication skills
- Service-, customer-, results-oriented, pleasant and with positive attitude

Service Advisor
Code: SA ♦ A, B, C, D
- Male or female, 22 – 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or Automotive Technology
- Knowledgeable in diagnosis of mechanical and body repairs
- Must be computer literate
- Pleasant personality
- Service-oriented, with initiative, responsible, resourceful and honest
- With valid professional driver's license

Technician
Code: Tech ♦ A, B, C, D
- Male, 18 – 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or Automotive Technology
- At least 1-2 years experience in mechanical, electrical and air con works
- Knowledgeable in troubleshooting and diagnosis of vehicle
- Service-oriented, with initiative, responsible, resourceful and honest
- With valid professional driver's license

Body Repair Assistant
Code: BRA ♦ A, B, C, D
- Male, 22 – 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or Automotive Technology
- With at least 1-2 years experience in related field
- Knowledgeable in body repair and painting operations specially vehicle restoration
- Service-oriented, resourceful, hardworking and details-oriented
- With valid professional driver's license

Tools & Materials Controller
Code: TMC ♦ B
- Male, 22 – 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or Automotive Technology
- With at least 1 year experience in warehousing and control inventory
- Knowledgeable in mechanical tools and equipment
- Must be computer literate
- Service-oriented, patient, hardworking, responsible and details-oriented

Parts Assistant
Code: SPR ♦ A, D
- Male, 21 – 30 years old
- Graduate of Engineering or Automotive Course
- With at least 1-2 years experience in related field
- Knowledgeable in spare parts and accessories
- Must be computer literate
- Service-oriented, with initiative, responsible, resourceful and honest
- With valid professional driver's license

Training Specialist
Code: TS ♦ C
- Male or Female, 24 – 35 years old
- College graduate of any business course
- With at least 2 years experience in Sales, Marketing and Customer Service Training
- With background in Training Needs Analysis, Program Design and Evaluation
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Effective interpersonal and presentation skills
- Service-, customer-, results-oriented, pleasant and with positive attitude

Interested applicants may send their application letter and resumé with 2x2 colored picture to the Human Resources Department. Please indicate the position code on the envelope. First 50 (fifty) applicants who will confirm appointment on October 27 shall be interviewed on October 29 or October 30, 2003:

A. HONDA CARS MAKATI
Magallunes Commercial Center
Makati City 1232
852-6754; 852-4181 to 82
loc. 107, 137, 154

B. HONDA CARS PASIG
E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue
cor. Calle Industria
Bagumbayan, Quezon City 1100
637-7476; 634-2730 loc. 220-221

C. HONDA CARS ALABANG
Alabang-Zapote Road
cor. Investment Drive
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1770
809-0552; 807-7889
loc 351-357

D. HONDA CARS SHAW
Shaw Blvd. cor. Pilar Street
Mandaluyong City 1552
718-2038; 717-1681 loc. 410

You may e-mail your text resumé (without attachments please) to **training_dev@pacific.net.ph** or you may also visit our website at **www.hondamakati.com.ph**

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

A leading multinational transport company is in need of a dynamic, assertive and mature professional to occupy the following position in our organization:

MARKETING EXECUTIVE
(MANILA BASED)

- Male or Female, not more than 30 years old, with pleasing personality
- Holder of an appropriate college degree from a reputable school
- Must have relevant sales work experience in the same capacity preferably in air, land and sea transport
- Willing to travel anywhere in the Philippines
- Computer literate, has good communications skills, willing to listen and learn, mature and organized, and can work extended hours

Qualified candidates are requested to personally **submit** their comprehensive and detailed resume' indicating the minimum salary desired, latest 2 x 2 photo, telephone number/s and other relevant credentials to:

MOF Company (Subic) Inc.
6th floor, CTC Building,
2232 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City,
Metro Manila, Philippines

Attention: THE LEGAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

GRAND JOB FAIR OF
BUENCONSEJO-ILLUSTRADO & ASSOCIATES

URGENTLY NEEDS...

JUNIOR MANAGER
MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
CORPORATE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

45-GRADUATES OF: PT, OT, RT, BSN & any MED. courses
30-GRADUATES OF: IE, ECE, EE, ME, CE & Archt.
20-GRADUATES OF: BSC, Tourism, Educ., Philo & Psyc
12-GRADUATES OF: CoE, ComSci & other IT related courses

** Age 20 to 35 years old, with or w/o experience. Willing to be assigned in diff. positions available in the company.

** Hiring starts on Oct. 27-31, 2003 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM) **Accepted applicants from Oct. 27-31, 2003)**

Interested applicants may apply personally with comprehensive resumé, original credentials and 2x2 picture at:

#235-C Mercan Bldg., EDSA Ext'n., Pasay City (near Saver's Square & Allied Bank, walking distance from MRT Taft & LRT Edsa station)

Look for MS. BENG ESTRADA

Clip this AD to your RESUMÉ

AGGRESIVELY HIRING
"HIRE TODAY, START TOMORROW"
influent
your business is our language

Influent Phils., Inc. provides outsourced customer contact solutions that maximize the value and reduce the cost of each inbound and outbound customer interaction. Our multilingual, 250-seat network is built on a foundation of both domestic and offshore facilities in order to provide clients with a range of alternatives. We have served financial, insurance, publishing, telecommunications, utilities and business services clients for over a decade.

We are presently searching for highly motivated individuals to fill the position of:

CUSTOMER CONTACT ASSOCIATE

- extremely fluent in English both oral and written
- must be willing to work on all shifts
- desire to achieve and excel above the rest
- call center experience is a plus but not required

""Supervisors, Quality Assurance, Trainers, and Managers Needed""

TEL. NOS. 687-3930 / 634-6830

MISYS

The key to a rewarding Information Technology career!

Misys International Banking Systems is a world leader in banking software solutions with a strong history of international growth, progressive development and clear direction. We are a leading supplier of IT solutions to the banking industry, with products and services used in 90 countries worldwide by over 1,200 financial institutions. Currently we are urgently looking to recruit top calibre professionals to fill the following vacancies in our Retail Development Department:

QUALITY MANAGER

A graduate of Bachelor of Science degree in any major field of technology, science or engineering. Candidate must have had direct involvement with ISO 9001:2000 and/or CMM (or equivalent). Minimum of 7 years experience in a similar role in a software development and/or manufacturing environment. Must have ability to propose, manage and enforce quality initiatives. Good interpersonal skills, strong verbal and written abilities are essential.

PROJECT MANAGER

Candidates must have at least 8-10 years experience in IT development, at least 2 years of which is in a project management capacity. The Project Manager shall be responsible for resource planning, people management and ensuring that project objectives are met. Strong written and verbal communication skills are essential in this position.

PROGRAMMERS / SENIOR PROGRAMMERS

A graduate of Computer Science or other related disciplines. Must have at least 36 months solid RPG and AS/400 programming experience. Strong verbal and written communication skills are important, as is the ability to work well with teams. Banking experience is a distinct advantage.

Interested parties may submit their resumes at:

Misys International Banking Systems, Inc.
10th Floor Philam Life Tower
Paseo De Roxas Street corner Ayala Avenue
Makati City
Or
Email: hrd.manila@misys.com

CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATION : **07 November 2003**

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sas® The Power to Know®

To leverage on our success and double digit growth in Asia Pacific, SAS Philippines is seeking outstanding professionals to provide innovative solutions for business decision makers in the country.

ABOUT SAS

SAS is the market leader in providing a new generation of business intelligence software and services that create true enterprise intelligence. SAS solutions are used at more than 38,000 sites – including 99 of the top 100 businesses on the Fortune 500 – to develop more profitable relationships with customers and suppliers; to enable better, more accurate and informed decisions; and to drive organizations forward. SAS Asia Pacific contributes 20% of the international revenue, which we aim to grow to a contribution of 40% by 2005. In the region, we employ over 850 people in 26 offices, in 13 countries. For 26 years, SAS has been giving customers around the world, The Power to Know®.

Visit us at www.sas.com.

INDUSTRY ACCOUNT MANAGERS

This role involves the development and generation of new business through strategic-based selling and managing and extending relationships with key accounts.

Five to seven years working experience in either a consulting or software house with experience in selling various business solutions such as analytical CRM, financial management, risk and other related business intelligence solutions, with a proven track record of successful sales achievements. Familiarity of the Financial Services, Government, Telco/Utilities or Manufacturing/Retail industry and their business issues are critical.

Please indicate the industry you are applying for.

PRESALES TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

This role involves crafting technical solution architecture to customer prospects, and integrating SAS with partner products including operating platforms/hardware.

5 years or more in-depth technical knowledge of complex IT environments is needed for this role. A broad understanding of various business industries and issues is required. Knowledge of SAS's product and solution offerings in order to handle its integration and design is an advantage.

We are inviting applications from highly motivated and result oriented professionals with strong business acumen, excellent communication and presentation skills.

Interested applicants are invited to apply strictly by email to careers@sgp.sas.com.

Applicants must provide a comprehensive resume detailing key professional achievements and clearly demonstrate how their previous career experience meets the above criteria.

Lingkuran sa Ikauunlad Na Ganap ng Pamilya
LINGaP Foundation, Inc.

A local Non Government Organization is looking for an **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** who will work on families and development with the following qualifications:

- 35 – 45 years old
- With social work education and management background
- With community organizing & supervisory skills
- Interest in improving the lives of the urban poor
- Comfortable in dealing with foreign agencies
- Will have to relate to foreign and local donors
- With fund raising capabilities
- Proficient in oral and written English
- Proficient in MS Office

Application will be accepted until November 7, 2003. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interview between November 17-21, 2003. Please send your resumé with photo together with transcript of records.

The Administrative Officer
LINGaP Foundation, Inc.
105 P. Aquino Avenue, Brgy. Longos,
Malabon City 1472

CSM Staff USA, LLC urgently needs the following personnel to fill in the various positions in the School District of Nevada and Florida, USA.

TEACHERS

- to handle physically and mentally handicapped and special children
  - must be BSE/BSEED graduates with at least 24 units in SPED
  - teaching experience is an advantage
- major in Math and Science – with masteral degree units
  - 2-5 years teaching experiences

HEALTH WORKERS

- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
  - education units and teaching experiences is an advantage

All of the above applicants must be physically fit to pass U.S. medical examination.

Submit 2 copies of resumé with 2x2 pictures, diploma, TOR, employment certificates and other certificates of seminars attended to:

CSM International Recruitment Services, Inc.
#74 Alley III – Palosapis Street, Project 3, Quezon City or
call at: 911-9560 / 912-5273
Fax No.: 912-8422
E-mail Address: Emygcasaol@yahoo.com.
Or log on to www.csm.com.ph
POEA-503-LB-1012-802-R
For Manpower Pooling, **No fees to be collected**
BEWARE OF ILLEGAL RECRUITER

Aboitiz Transport Group

ABOITIZ TRANSPORT GROUP has been bridging the islands of the Philippine archipelago since the 1920's. Today, it is the single largest and most efficient integrated Transportation Company in the country. We are the holding company of the transport investments of the Aboitiz Group. The single largest integrated transportation company in the Philippines. An ACO and AEV investment.

ATG has helped create jobs through its operations and business expansion. In addition to being the leader in the transportation industry, WG&A one of its companies is one of the country's Best Employer's. Hewitt Associates, a management consulting firm launched the first Asia-wide Best Employers Study last June 2001. This study was participated by forty-two (42) companies and 11,616 employees. Among these companies, WG&A ranked 6th in the top 10 list.

ATG provides you with opportunities for learning and growth. Find the career opportunity that matches your skills, interests and goals.

HUMAN RESOURCE PARTNER (Account Management)

Will be the Human Resource Partner/Manager for a business unit
As HR Partner, he/she will provide service for the business units staffing requirements, talent management, employee relations, training and organizational development

Familiar with (shared service) business structure for Human Resources
Preferably with Master's Degree
Minimum of 5 years HR experience, preferably has handled accounts/clients

BUSINESS PROCESS & MEASUREMENT MANAGER

Knowledge and understanding of Contact Center Operations and Systems
Knowledge and understanding of Contact Center Network and Data Link set-up
Project Implementation and Management
Business Case preparation, Financial Analysis and Cost Benefit Analysis
Process Mapping and Documentation, Process Streamlining
Contact Center Parameters and Reports
Capacity Planning, Facilities Planning

Bachelor's degree in Business, Industrial Engineering, or equivalent experience
Master's degree in Business Management an advantage
At least 3-5 years experience in Call Center
Mid 30s

SENIOR CONSULTANTS

The Senior Consultant will be responsible in Planning projects, Organization of logistics; Execution which involves Resource Management and Data Collection; Reporting (analysis/interpretation of data results, report writing, presentation and facilitation)

Graduates of Industrial Engineering, Marketing Management, BS Math, Economics, Statistics and other related courses
With 2 years experience in market and operation research
Preferably single
Willing to travel nationwide

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Able to negotiate the appropriate rates
Able to solicit referrals that can lead into possible sales generating account
Knowledgeable in import/export procedures
Maintain existing customers and address specific concerns
Expand support from existing customer by getting new business/trade
Develop and generate new business from new accounts
Do market studies and identify/know activities of competition
Develop good contacts among exporters and importers

Graduate of a 4-yr course preferably in Business Administration or Management
Minimum of 2 years sales and marketing experience preferably from Freight forwarding or Logistics Company
Excellent interpersonal relations, good follow-thru, persistent, patient, above average negotiation skills, has strong drive to meet aggressive sales target, with self-confidence and pleasing personality, good coordination skills, excellent customer service skills, above average oral and written communication skills

BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYST

Knowledge of technology information process and departmental internal system
Basic understanding of the stature and administrative rules governing the shipping industry
Ability to understand business process vis-a-vis its impact in the business system/operation
Implementation of new system, operations methods and procedures
Ability to clearly define customer/business requirements
Provide business information (Passage business in particular)
Will be reporting directly to the OCOO and OAVP for Passage
Will be responsible in doing business analysis, research and statistics

BS Industrial Engineering Graduates
Single, preferably 20 to 28 years old
Willing to be assigned in the Pier area

PRICING AND YIELD MANAGEMENT ANALYST

Will be responsible in handling Tariff Rates/Structures (Pricing Control and SAS Management)
Forecasting Accounts Prioritization and Allocation (Demand Forecast, Allocation/Prioritization/Performance Analysis)
Records Management
Systems Application

Graduates of Business Economics, Statistics, Math, Industrial Engineering, or any other related courses
At least one (1) year working experience with account management preferably with mastery of Microsoft Excel
Preferably Single

SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

To design, implement, and support Revenue Management applications on an enterprise-wide basis. Also, to provide continuing technical oversight and technical guidance for the Revenue Management team.

At least 2 years experience in systems analysis and design, system performance tuning. Experience in database management and tuning, a plus
At least 1 year experience in Project Management, preferably in Revenue Management implementation project
Proficient in RDBMS (Oracle, MS platforms)
Qualities/Traits: Able to thrive under pressure, highly creative, very willing to learn, able to see the big picture, strong interest in new technology, high sense of urgency and high energy level

AUDITORS

Will be involved in the following areas:
Handle internal control evaluations & risk assessment
Financial/Operations audit
Information systems audit/systems development
Information systems audit application
Information systems audit infrastructure review
Reporting of audit results & follow up
Audit Planning

Experience in external and internal audit for at least 2 years
CPA
Male or female
Preferably single, willing to travel nationwide

CLAIMS SUPERVISOR

Will screen, validate, insurance related claims corporate wide and coordinating the same to the insurer, insurance brokers and surveyors. Formulates reports for submission to management. Will manage cargo claims and risk management. Responsible for planning, organizing, leading and controlling the activities of Claims

Understanding of financial accounting and internal controls
Oracle financial applications knowledge an advantage
Business degree preferably Accounting Major
With at least 1 year experience in handling Claims & Insurance settlement

2 AREA SECURITY OFFICERS (Cebu and Mindanao Based)

Administer security and safety program to Visayas and Mindanao based offices within the Aboitiz Transport Group

Any four-year degree course; has relevant years of experience in corporate security
Between 25 to 35 years old
Willing to be based in Cebu or Mindanao (CDO/Davao)

If you feel you are the one we are looking for, send us your comprehensive curriculum vitaé with 2x2 colored photo to:

The Corporate Staffing Group
9th Floor Times Plaza, U.N. cor Taft Avenue, Manila

You can also send email at: sscjobs@aboitizone.com.ph
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BRANCH MANAGERS

For Naga, Cagayan de Oro, General Santos

Will be responsible for the overall operations of the branch; Sales, marketing, credit and collection, etc.

- Graduate of Marketing, Management or any business course from a reputable school
- With at least five years experience in selling office machines and equipment, two years of which is in managerial capacity
- Knowledge in sales planning activities is required; priority will be given to those with brand management exposure
- Excellent communication and leadership skills
- Male/Female, 28-35 years old
- Preferably resident of Naga, Cagayan de Oro or General Santos

SENIOR SALES EXECUTIVES

FOR COPIERS

For Metro Manila, Calabarzon, Angeles, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, General Santos

Will be responsible for promoting and selling digital copiers and printers

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- Preferably with at least two years experience in selling office machines and equipment; a good working knowledge in computer operation, applications and networking are major advantages
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

JUNIOR SALES EXECUTIVES

FOR COPIERS

For Metro Manila, Calabarzon, Angeles, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, General Santos

- Graduate of any four year course from a reputable school; Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Determined to pursue a career in sales
- Male/Female not more than 25 years old

Competitive compensation, high commission and a rewarding professional career await successful candidates

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resume with photo to:

Ms. Armela Cruz
Recruitment & Training Group
U-BIX CORPORATION
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph
Previous applicants need not apply.

Konica EPSON RISO okamura

FEP PRINTING CORPORATION

(Official printer of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Libre, Asian Wall Street Journal, Cebu Daily News, Bandera, Tumbok)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

PRE-PRESS TECHNICIAN

- Male/Female
- Engineering graduates
- Previous experience preferred but not necessary
- Familiarity with Mac and PC and major Software applications (Adobe, Corel and Macromedia)
- Background in print production preferred

BINDERY

- Mechanical/EE/ECE graduate
- Male/Female
- Willing to work in industrial environment

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ANALYST

- Male/Female
- Chemical/Industrial/Computer Engineer graduates
- Work experience in a manufacturing set up is preferred
- Willing to travel from time to time to Davao and Cebu plants
- Computer proficient in office applications (Word, Powerpoint, Excel)
- Should be able to relate and interact with other employees in the line

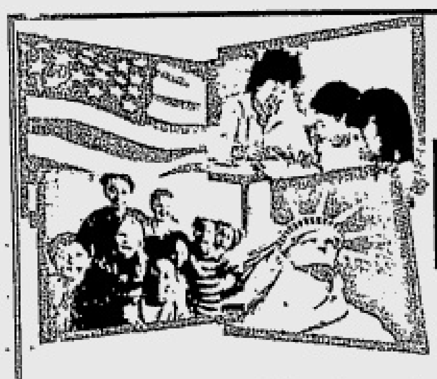
HRD SUPERVISOR

- Psychology graduate preferably with Masteral degree
- At least 3-5 years experience as an HRD Supervisor
- With experience in recruitment and counseling
- Knowledgeable in Labor Laws
- Computer literate

Applicants for all position must be willing to be assigned in Mamplasan, Laguna (shuttle service available). Fresh graduates are welcome to apply.

Qualified applicants are requested to submit a comprehensive resumé, recent 2x2 picture and a photocopy of Transcript of Records.

FEP Printing Corporation
Louie R. Prieto Press Building
Mascardo Street near corner Pasong Tamo, Makati City
Or Email: aoasan@fep.ph



WANTED: TEACHERS for the U.S.

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In less than 9 weeks, you can be considered for an interview and be one of the successful candidates to obtain a contract to teach in New York City!

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Pasig City, Philippines

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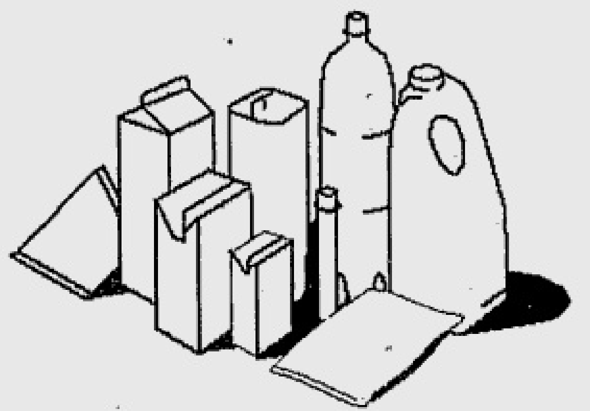

PROCESSING SYSTEM SALES MANAGER

For the sales of processing lines and systems for the liquid food industry, we are looking for a System Sales Manager

Must be self-driven, independent and dedicated individual with a clear sense of customer support, but also works well as a team player.

Must be an Engineering graduate w/ a minimum of 5 years sales experience for Process Equipment sales. Experienced in food processing equipment is an advantage.

Must manage a team of sales engineers.

Must be computer literate.

Likes to travel and must possess a driver's license.

Successful candidate will be offered a good compensation package, including a company car, as well as an extensive training program both locally and international.

Successful candidate is expected, in due time, to take charge of the whole Processing Division.

Interested candidates should send their curriculum vitaé to:

Tetra Pack (Philippines), Inc.
7th Flr., Net One Center, 26th St. cor. Third Avenue
Fort Bonifacio, Global City, Taguig, 1634
Or Mail to: HR/Admin Officer
P.O. Box 3562, MCPO 1275, Makati City

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PDS Group

PHILIPPINE DEALING SYSTEM HOLDINGS CORP. the holding company, which shall provide the country's first electronic platform for trading, clearing, settlement and depository, registry and custody of fixed income securities and its derivatives is in need of top-caliber and highly motivated individuals to fill up the following positions:

RISK MANAGEMENT HEAD (Code: PDS-01)

- Reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer
- Preferably graduate in Mathematics/Engineering or with MBA degree
- Deep understanding of banking services in the field of operations, credit, treasury, custody and trust
- At least five (5) years experience in managing the risk management group of a major financial institution
- Presently occupying a senior position
- Excellent in people and process management
- Excellent in analytical and interpersonal skills at all levels

CUSTODY HEAD (Code: PDTC-01)

- Reports directly to the Chief Operations Officer
- At least ten (10) years in a major financial institution, securities brokerage and/or investment house with deep understanding of financial instruments, securities payments and settlement, custodial and trusteeship functions
- At least five (5) years experience in trust and/or custody operations in a major bank
- Preferably MBA degree and certified trust officer of the Trust Officers Association of the Philippines (TOAP)
- Presently occupying a senior position

RESEARCH HEAD (Code: PDEX-01)

- Reports directly to the Chief Operations Officer
- At least ten (10) years experience in investments and fixed-income research
- Comprehensive knowledge of macro-economics on both country and regional level
- Experience in trading or selling of fixed income instruments is an advantage
- Preferably a Chartered Financial Analyst or any other similar international certification

COMPLIANCE AND SURVEILLANCE HEAD (Code: PDEX-02)

- Reports directly to the Chief Operations Officer
- Extensive experience in compliance of an entity dealing with investment and fixed-income instruments
- Comprehensive knowledge of Securities Laws and other related regulations
- Working knowledge of the operations of an entity dealing in fixed-income securities
- Experience in trading or selling of fixed-income instruments is an advantage
- Preferably a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or a legal degree holder
- Presently occupying a senior position

PDS offers industrially competitive remuneration package, professional training and excellent opportunities for career enhancement. If you are qualified, please forward the following documents: Curriculum Vitae, transcript of records, your contact telephone number, 2 recent passport size photos and photocopies of your credentials to:

The Human Resource Department
PHILIPPINE DEALING SYSTEM HOLDINGS CORP.
G/F Makati Stock Exchange Building
6767 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Gloria Jean's

Gloria Jean's Coffees is looking for qualified people to fill in the ff jobs for Metro-Manila stores:

Store Mgrs / Supvs: – college grad., bet. 24 & 32 yrs. old, with 3-5 yrs experience in restaurant operations that covers management of people, inventory, utilities, & eqpt; w/ exp. in customer service and local stores marketing.

Store Associates – college grad; customer service oriented; pleasant personality & good communication skills.

Pls send resumé and photo to Nona Baldo at 302A Landmark Villa 1, Kaimito St., Valle Verde 2, Pasig City or email nonabaldo@yahoo.com.

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(For Metro Manila, Angeles, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Davao)

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- Preferably with at least two years sales experience in the service industry
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of Management or any business course from a reputable school
- With at least 2 years experience in supervising service employees
- Must have good interpersonal and communication skills with high standard of customer service skills at all times
- Mature, reliable and can work well in a fast-paced environment
- Female, not more than 30 years old

Competitive compensation and a rewarding professional career await successful candidates

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resumé with photo to:

Ms. Armela Cruz
Recruitment & Training Group
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph

Previous applicants need not apply

If you are motivated, talented, and career oriented individual who wants to grow with our company, then explore your opportunities with us today!

We are an IT Company looking for a dynamic and competitive individual to fill the following position:

Systems Analyst

Requirements:

- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Math, Industrial Engineering or other related engineering courses.
- Should have at least 3 years of total IT experience with extensive experience in requirements gathering and analysis
- Able to lead facilitated sessions with end users to drive detailed requirements activities
- Must have experience in client server applications using Visual Basic, Java, SQL
- With good communication and presentation skills

Project Management

Requirements:

- Business or IT related degree from a reputable university
- Effective and above-average English oral and written communications skills.
- Very strong commercial orientation and customer focus
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural and multi-functional environment
- More than three (3) years solid experience in IT project, software development and systems implementation
- Structured project management approach and comprehensive knowledge of development life cycles
- Ability to work under broad directions, while providing interface between the business and development groups
- Experience in managing projects

Quality Engineer

Requirements:

- Strong drive for performance, solutions and results delivery
- Good organizational skills and task management abilities
- In depth knowledge of quality assurance procedures, methodologies, strategies; with the ability to share these with QA team members and Project team members
- Broad knowledge-base in information technology, systems and software development, database structure and storage, relational database management systems, data mining, and data warehousing
- College Graduate of any Bachelor of Arts or Sciences program with at least three (3) years experience
- Strong Expertise in Quality Assurance procedures, techniques and implementation strategies
- Strong Organizational and Project/Task Management skills

Architecture Engineer

Requirements

- More than 3 years comprehensive project experience for hardware, software and network design and implementation
- More than 3 years experience in the following: LDAP, Network Systems and Architecture, Internet Security, Web Servers, Web Application Architecture
- Software/application gather requirements, design, develop, code, test and documents solutions
- Ensure complete customer satisfaction
- Technical Documentation as required
- Strong technical ability to install and configure third-party supported software
- Understanding of security concepts

Interested applicants may e-mail their application and comprehensive resumé to:

innodigital@mailcity.com or submit it at INNODIGITAL PHILIPPINES INC. at Unit 707 Tower One & Exchange Plaza Ayala Triangle Makati City.

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We've got all the best jobs for you.

ASSISTANT BRANCH MANAGER

- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with at least three (3) years managerial experience in retail operations

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

- Certified Public Accountant
- with at least three (3) years work experience in all accounting operations
- Proficient in computer software application
- Team-player, goal-oriented and able to work under pressure

TREASURY MANAGER

- graduate of Accounting or Banking & Finance
- with at least two (2) years supervisory experience in accounting, funds management or treasury functions
- Familiar with banking operations and Central Bank procedures

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

- graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology or any 4-year Management course
- with intensive experience in personnel management
- must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

- graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- with at least two (2) years work experience in property management building administration in the same capacity
- able to lead group and prioritize workload to meet deadlines

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER

- graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course
- male, must be 5'5 1/2 in height & female, 5'2 in height
- with at least one (1) year related work experience
- flexible to different work assignment and willing to be assigned in provincial branches
- must be physically fit and willing to work on extended hours

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:
SM Shoemart
SM Corporate Office, Bldg. D 1000 Bay Boulevard,
SM Central Business Park, Bay City, Pasay City

(Please bring Bio-data, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored photo with white background, SSS number and photocopy of your Transcript of records and Diploma together with the original copy)

E-mail: Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

You can now apply On Line at HTTP://sm.jobsdb.com.ph on October 28-30, 2003

SIBS Publishing House, Inc.

is in search of candidates to fill in the position of:

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Job Description

- Responsible for coordinating seminars, book exhibits, book launchings, and other corporate events.

Qualifications

- Female, 22-27 years old, single
- College graduate from reputable university with AB Masscom or Communication/Liberal Arts degree
- Excellent communication skills both oral and written
- Good interpersonal or people / PR Skills
- Adaptable and can work under pressure and multiple tasks
- Must be willing to travel and render overtime work
- Possess good leadership qualities
- Two-three years in experience in promotions and marketing *(an advantage)*

Please send or e-mail your comprehensive resumé with recent photo and transcript of records to:

Personnel Department
c/o Irish Tagapia
SIBS Publishing House, Inc.
B/F Globe Telecom Plaza II
Pioneer Highlands,
Pioneer corner Madison Streets
1552 Mandaluyong City
E-mail: sibsbook@info.com.ph

A New York Call Center

- **Account Executives** (P190, 000- P250, 000 per annum)
  - Preferably a graduate of UP, Ateneo or La Salle
  - At least 1 year experience in the field of sales
  - Computer literate
  - Good oral and written communication skills
  - Willing to go on field and have flexible working hours
  - Possesses a NON-PROFESSIONAL driver's license an advantage
- **Outbound Sales Agents** (P117, 000- P160, 000 per annum)
  - 18 to 27 years old, with outgoing personality
  - Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
  - Basic computer knowledge
  - Fresh graduates are welcome
- **Computer Technician** (P100, 000 - P150, 000 per annum)
  - Must be knowledgeable Networking
  - Willing to be trained
  - Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
  - Must know how to drive a car or motorcycle
  - Fresh graduates are welcome

SEND YOUR RESUMES WITH PICTURE TO:
marcia@nytelecon.com; Fax 729-0160
P.O. Box 892 Dasmariñas Village,
Makati City

A LEADING PUBLISHING COMPANY

urgently needs:

SEMINAR & EVENTS COORDINATOR

- Female, single, not over 28 years old
- Mass Comm. / AB graduate with Education units preferably from a reputable university
- At least 5'4" with pleasing personality & good "PR" skills
- Willing to travel and work beyond office hours
- Proficient in both oral and written communication

GRAPHICS ARTIST

- M/F, Single, not more than 28 years old
- Graduate of Fine Arts or Visual Communication
- Highly proficient in Adobe Pagemaker, Illustrator, Photoshop and other MAC applications
- Good communication skills
- Able to meet deadlines and work under pressure
- Exposure/experience in a publishing firm is a plus

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT IN SOCIAL STUDIES

- Preferably Male/Single, not over 28 years old
- Graduate of AB History/Education major in Social Studies
- Computer proficient preferably in MAC applications
- Good command of both oral and written communication
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

Qualified candidates may drop off or mail their resumé (strictly with contact nos.) w/ 2x2 photo and Transcript of Records at:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
1253 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
(near Sto. Domingo Church)
or contact Marvin @ 7122722 loc. 132/232

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- Graduates of Engineering, preferably Electrical
- Proficient in communication skills in English and Filipino
- Effective skills in interpersonal relations
- Confident, outgoing personality, and street-smart in spotting business opportunities
- Male or female, 21-35 years old

Successful candidate can look forward to a career development in the company with sufficient training opportunities and recognition for worthwhile achievements.

Apply personally at 2209 Jose Abad Santos Avenue near Batangas St., Tondo, Manila with bio-data sheets, 1" x 1" ID photos and transcript of records or call 251-2881.

e-mail: yek@mindgate.net

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
STORE CONSIGNOR'S OFFICE

The Job

- Conceptualizes and implements projects/streategies to develop business opportunities through the concessionaires
- Conducts market research and competitive survey to improve the operational and financial aspects of the business
- Can work with concessionaires to increase sales and productivity
- Can achieve business goals set by management

Job Requirements

- graduate of Industrial Engineering, or any 4-year business course
- must possess strategic thinking and creative marketing ability
- must have a solid experience, good insight and in-depth knowledge of the retail industry particularly on concessionaire management
- with excellent oral and written communication skills

Interested applicants may mail their resumé with recent photo to:

Box No. KA-002-03 MC
Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila
or
e-mail at: prod_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: MC)

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Open its doors to highly-competent, top caliber and results oriented leaders to fill in the following positions:

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M/F, at least 23 yrs. old. Grad of any course. Masteral degree is an advantage. W/ at least 2 yrs. experience in bus. dev't (real estate or franchising) gained in a fastfood or retail establishment. Conducts market feasibility studies. Experience negotiator. Proficient in windows-based applic. Skilled driver. Willing to travel.

DESIGNERS

M/F, Pref. single. grad. of BS Architecture or Interior Design. VG in AutoCADD Rel. 14. Can work long hours & flexible.

MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL TECHNICIANS

Male. 22-28 yrs. old. Mech./Elect. Tech. or any related trade / vocational course grad. At least 2 yrs. exposure in a manufacturing firm, esp. in RAC maintenance & facilitation. Can work long hours.

CATEGORY MANAGERS / CATEGORY SUPERVISORS

M/F, 25-35 yrs. old. Pref. grad. of I.E. Mktg. or any bus.-related course. W/ at least 1-3 yrs. of actual exp. in trade or consumer mktg. Exp. in garments or school & office supplies operations is a plus factor. Proficient in planning & analysis. Familiar w/ project & product mgt. W/ good interpersonal & leadership skills. Exposure in category or supply chain mgt. is an advantage.

STORE MANAGERS

M/F, not more than 35 yrs. old. Coll. grad. w/ at least 3 yrs. Managerial/supervisory exp. in a retail, mfg., fast food or any service-oriented bus. Must have exp. in sales, inv. ctrl., & manpower mgt. Possesses strong leadership skills. Accepts rotating shifts. Residents of Manila, Lucena, Lipa, Laguna, Laoag, Tuguegarao, La Union, Olongapo & Isabela are preferred.

STORE SUPERVISORS FOR COMPUTER SVCS. SHOPS

M/F, 23-28 yrs. old. A grad. of any 4 yrs. computer course. W/ intensive knowledge in networking & computer hardwares/ softwares. Highly analytical, w/ good comm. & leadership skills. Pref. w/ background in handling computer rentals & will be assigned in Metro Manila & Northern / Southern Luzon areas.

WE ALSO NEED THE FOLLOWING:

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- Audit Supervisors & Audit Staffs
- Marketing Staffs & Assistants
- Warehouse Supervisors
- Mechanical Engineers
- Import Merchandisers
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- Category Assistants
- Management Trainees
- Administrative Staffs
- Computer Assistants
- Computer Technicians
- Book Illustrators
- Graphic Artist
- Security Officers
- Inventory Controllers
- Data Encoders
- Cashiers, Sales Assoc. Stockmen

Interested applicants may apply personally or mail resumé w/ recent photo to:

THE CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT.
#2302 Sterling Place Bldg.,
Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
POSITION APPLIED:
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DAGUPAN ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Our company, the largest and the only privately-owned and managed electric distribution company in Pangasinan, is built on the solid foundation of Service, Excellence and Integrity. We are looking for young, innovative and resourceful individuals to join our team as:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- *A graduate of any 4-year course*
- *Computer literate*
- *With at least 3 years related work experience*
- *Dynamic and able to carry out multi-tasks*
- *With excellent oral and written communication skills*
- *With good public relations skills*
- *Can work with minimum supervision*
- *With high integrity and strong work ethics*
- *With high tolerance for stress*
- *Quezon City based*

ANALYST/ PROGRAMMER

- *With experience in developing applications and databases in a Unix, BSD, or Linux environment*
- *With experience in system administration in a Unix, BSD, or Linux environment*
- *With good mathematical, analytical, written, and verbal communication ability*
- *Quezon City or Dagupan City based*

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- *A graduate of BS Accountancy*
- *With at least 2 years experience in general accounting*
- *Computer literate*
- *With excellent verbal and written communication skills*
- *Can work with minimum supervision*
- *Willing to travel*
- *Quezon City based*

CADET ENGINEERS

- *Registered Electrical Engineer*
- *Computer Literate*
- *With good scholastic record*
- *Knows how to drive and with a valid driver's license*
- *Preferably from Pangasinan or nearby provinces*

If you possess the above qualifications, please send your application letter, resume, transcript of records and 2x2 picture on or before November 15, 2003 to

THE HR MANAGER
Dagupan Electric Corporation
AB Fernandez West,
Dagupan City 2400

Email Address:
decorp-hrd@netscape.net

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Dynamic Marketing Manager

We are currently looking for a marketing manager.
The successful candidate will generate sponsorships and media coverage for alternative multi-media productions and events and a diving resort, and develop the customer relation's management program and locate new markets (local and international) for the resort. He/ she should have at least 2 years relevant experience, be a team player and accustomed to working under pressure.

Please send your CV and a covering letter to:
Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel, The Managing Partner
Planet Dive, Unit 101 Delsa Mansion, 44 Scout Borromeo cor. Sct. Torillo
Brgy. South Triangle, Quezon City.

email us @planetdive.net

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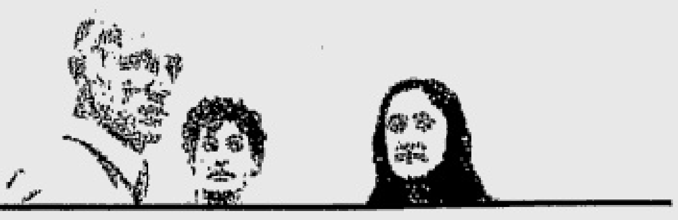
Global Antivirus Research & Support Center | in America



Trend Micro™ Incorporated is a global leader in antivirus and content security software and services. Its solutions protect the flow of information on PCs, file servers, email servers and at the Internet gateway, providing a complete, centrally-controlled VirusWall for enterprise networks.

We are looking for top-notch, dynamic, and high caliber performers for the positions of:

TECHNICAL SALES SERVICES MANAGER/ TEAM LEADER

- Strong System, Network Administration skills, and other IT related experience
- Demonstrated expertise in implementing and utilizing automated testing tools for Performance Benchmarking purpose
- Demonstrated proficiency with automated testing technologies such as: WebBench, WinRunner/LoadRunner, Test Director, NetPressure.
- Experience with network monitoring or protocol analyzer tools
- Demonstrated ability to conduct competitive analysis among software products
- Must be able to work effectively independently or as a contributing member of a team
- Superior critical analysis, problem solving and decision-making skills are a must
- Highly developed verbal, written and oral communication skills are essential
- Prior experience in writing test plans for software products
- Strong technical aptitude, ability to absorb new information quickly and capacity to manage multiple priorities in a fast-paced environment essential
- Analyzes test results to ensure existing functionality and recommends corrective action; and consults with development engineers and/or Technical Sales Services in resolution of problems.
- Prior supervisory or managerial responsibilities

An advantage if you have an **MS in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering,** or other related discipline and solid knowledge of electronics and basic programming skills. **Five+** years automated software test experience with progressing responsibility on Windows and UNIX technologies required. **Engineering positions** are available as well.

PRODUCT SUPPORT SERVICES CONTACT CENTER QUALITY ANALYST TEAM LEADER

- Maintain close coordination with all Team Leaders/Supervisors within the Operations to evaluate each team's performance in line with the quality principles.
- Conduct daily service quality analysis within the Operations and ensures that the members of the team follow proper procedures and protocols at all times.
- Ensure full documentation of all pertinent and specific data supporting the monitoring activities of Operations.
- Develop Service Standards (Qualitative/Quantitative) Performance Metrics and initiates review and calibration as necessary.
- Define and compile quality data internally and externally and consistently work with the management team in the development/design and execution of departmental and/or organizational quality-programs.
- With 2- 3 years experience in customer-related field Must have managed multiple projects/assignments concurrently.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, organizational, project and time management skills.

Candidate must possess at least a **Bachelor degree in Engineering (Industrial) Communication, Business Administration** or related courses. **Contact Center Quality Analyst Positions** are available as well. Candidates with call center experience will be prioritized.

Kindly email your resume (in Word Format) to recruitment@trendmicro.com.ph or recruitment@support.trendmicro.com. In the event that you meet the minimum qualifications of the position that you are applying for, you shall be contacted in the soonest.

Visit our URL at: www.trendmicro.com
Free scan: http://housecall.antivirus.com

A US-based Multi-national company engaged in power generation is looking for experienced and highly skilled applicants to fill in the need for:

ELECTRICAL SUPERVISOR (1)

- Graduate of BS Electrical Engineering
- Preferably licensed Electrical Engineer
- Has extensive experience in V/V Motors, ESP, Generators, and Excitation System
- With at least 6-8 years experience in the use of Computerized Maintenance Management Systems

ASSISTANT INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROL SUPERVISOR (1)

- Has a five-year college degree in Electrical Engineering or Instrumentation and Control Engineering or equivalent
- Has 5-7 years experience in Power Plant Instrumentation and Control, Mark V, EX2000

PLANT OPERATORS (3)

- Has a five-year degree in Mechanical, Electrical, or Chemical Engineering or Engineering Technology or equivalent and two years supervisory experience in plant operations
- Has a working knowledge of power plant equipment and principles of operation
- Has the ability to read and interpret blueprints, schematics, and instruction manuals
- Has a working knowledge of personal computers and related software including spreadsheet and word processing applications

ELECTRICAL TECHNICIANS (2)

- Graduate of Electrical Engineering or equivalent
- Has extensive experience in a Thermal Power Plant for at least five years
- Is highly knowledgeable in PLC, protection relay calibration, and other motor controls, generators and motor overhaul

INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICIAN (1)

- Graduate of Electrical or Control Engineering or equivalent.
- Has extensive experience in Mark V, Excitation System EX2000 for at least 5 years
- Experienced in the use of Computer Maintenance Management System

INVENTORY ACCOUNTANT (1)

- Must be a graduate of a four-year degree in Accounting
- Knowledgeable in inventory and assets record and control
- Must have at least two years experience in Inventory Management
- Knows how to prepare warehouse receiving and issuance reports
- Must be proficient in English (oral and written)
- Must be computer literate and knowledgeable in the following applications: MS Word, MS Excel and Accounting softwares

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive Resumé with contact numbers and most recent 2" x 2" photo not later than **October 31, 2003** to:

The Human Resource Department
P.O. Box 206,
Quezon Capital Post Office,
Lucena City, Quezon

Elite Garments International, Inc.

owner and manufacturer of established brand names for the local and export market

solo freeway 22BC TWENTY-TWO BC ENSEMBLES

FASHION MARKETING OFFICER

* Loves fashion and media
* Good organization & communication skills
* Creative background an advantage
* With at least 1-2 years work experience in related industries
* Female, below 28 yrs. old.

HR STAFF

* Graduate of Psychology/Behavioral Science
* Female, below 30 yrs. old
* Pref. With experience in Recruitment, Manpower Planning, Payroll & General HR Work
* Proficient in work deadlines & can adapt to job pressure
* Knowledgeable with MS Applications

WAREHOUSE STOCK CLERK

* Graduate of any Computer related courses
* Female, 28 yrs. old below
* Pref. With experience in stocks control & inventory
* Must be honest, well organized & detail oriented
* Willing to work overtime

FIELD INVENTORY / ACCOUNTING CLERKS

* Female, Accounting Grad, below 30 yrs. old
* Computer literate, preferably w/ experience
* Willing to do field work

Send resume thru fax/e-mail/mail at:
PERSONNEL DEPT.
996 P. Ocampo Sr. St., Malate, Manila
Tels. #525-3593/523-0957 Fax # 521-36-71
E-mail: grace@elitegarments.com
or E-mail: egiihrd@yahoo.com

SALES MANAGER

Qualifications

- Experienced in handling ECR/POS Sales
- Capable of building a strong sales team
- Computer Literate
- With a good track record in commercial and dealer sales

Applicants must send their complete resumé with picture to P.O. Box 1547 Makati CPO

OMNIPACK INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION is inviting high caliber individuals with related working experience in Flexible & Rigid Plastic Packaging to apply for the following positions:

PRODUCTION HEAD

- ☐ Male, 35-45 years old
- ☐ Mechanical or Industrial Engineering Graduate
- ☐ 3 years experience as Head in Converting Process

INK DEPARTMENT HEAD

- ☐ Male, 30-40 years old
- ☐ Chemical Engineering or BS Chemistry Graduate
- ☐ 5 years experience in making Rotogravure Ink

PERSONNEL HEAD

- ☐ Female, 28-35 years old
- ☐ AB/BS Psychology Behavioral Science Graduate
- ☐ 3 years experience as Personnel Head

PRODUCTION DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT (RIGID PLASTIC)

- ☐ Male, 26-35 years old
- ☐ Advertising/Industrial Arts Graduate
- ☐ 3 years experience in product design & development of Rigid Plastic

Applicants may apply personally or send resumé and 1x1 picture to:

OMNIPACK INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION
Lots 2&3 Deparo Road, Bagumbong, Caloocan City

PHONE INTERVIEW & HIRING
BY DIRECT PETITIONER FOR
IMMIGRANT NURSES
IMMEDIATE **ETA (INS)** FORMS TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

NO UPFRONT FEES
FREE AIRFARE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,
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call/text 00 1 630 854 9842
00 1 630 362 9841
Email: expediacare@comcast.net
WWW.EXPEDIACAREUSA.NET

20 NORTH ROSELLE RD.
ROSELLE, ILLINOIS USA 60171

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FOR NEW YORK HOSPITALS
CGFNS Passers register Immediately!

$500 Sign-On Cash Bonus!

We offer Highest Hourly Rates: $20-$40
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Work in the world's greatest hospitals in New York.

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Immediately hiring CGFNS passers & nurses awaiting CGFNS results.
Also assisting nurses in passing CGFNS and acquiring all necessary exams & certificates.

Contact Shaindy J, International Recruiter: PH: 718-387-8163
EMAIL: nurses@whiteglovecare.com, FAX Resume: 718-387-8359
Visit us online at www.whiteglovecare.com

HIMLAYANG PILIPINO PLANS, INCORPORATED

has immediate need for:

CLAIMS and GENERAL SERVICES MANAGER

- Graduate of at least a 4-year College Course
- Between 35-47 years old
- With supervisory or managerial experience in claims and general administration
- Has the facility of oral and written communications
- Adept in customer relations, and proficient in dealing and interacting with people in all situations
- Preferably with legal background in claims

Come visit us personally or send resumé, transcript and 2x2 ID photo to:

The Personnel Department
6th Floor, Triumph Building
1610 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail: hpihppi@info.com.ph
Tel. No. 927-9671 to 75 • 920-2876 • 929-6611/12
Fax (926-7328)

DAILY E-NEWSPAPER NEEDS

NIHONGO NEWS WRITER/EDITOR

- can write, proofread, and edit news in Nihongo
- willing to work afternoons to evenings, six days a week
- knowledgeable in computer office applications and the Internet
- a team player who can work with minimum supervision

kindly send your comprehensive resume
and include salary expectation
(in TXT format) to
nl_mla@i-manila.com.ph

AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH.

That's true. By water, land, or air, we'll get through it, just to get closer to you. The eTelecare HR team will soon be traveling to different provinces to find the best and the brightest of the Philippines. There's nothing we love more than telling people about what a great workplace we have, and welcoming them to work with us. We've impressed the industry with 12 international awards. Now, allow us to impress you.

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATES
SALES REPRESENTATIVES
TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVES
NETWORK ENGINEER
DATA NETWORK SPECIALIST
APPLICATION DEVELOPERS
TEAM LEADERS
TRAINING OFFICERS
INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGER / OFFICER
HR COMPENSATION & BENEFITS MANAGER
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
RECRUITING MANAGER
RECRUITING OFFICERS /SPECIALISTS
TELECOM SPECIALIST

eTelecare
international

SEND YOUR RESUME, CALL US, OR VISIT US FOR AN IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW AT
20F CITIBANK SQUARE, EASTWOOD CITY CYBERPARK, LIBIS QC
hotline 9165680 * fax 9162200 * recruiting@etelecare.com
OR DROP OFF YOUR RESUME AT THE 14F PBCOM TOWER,
VA RUFINO COR AYALA AVE, MAKATI CITY

ATMAK CORPORATION, a Japanese company engages in Manufacture/ Fabrication of High Performance Engineered Plastics and Steel/Aluminum products for Pharmaceutical, Electronics, and Industrial applications is in need of qualified

PRODUCTION ENGINEERS/SUPERVISORS
CAD MECHANICAL DESIGNER

for our product expansion in Rosario, Cavite.

We are looking for:

- ☐ A graduate of any engineering course, no more than 30 years old and with (3) years minimum work experience in related field
- ☐ With extensive exposure to supervisory work, and personally well-organized
- ☐ An individual of high personal standards of work performance. Not satisfied with average performance
- ☐ A hardworking individual that maintains stability under pressure or opposition, and sustains effectiveness in the face of disappointment or rejection

We are an equal opportunity employer that recognizes the value of a diverse workforce, and we support a drug-free workplace. We offer a highly competitive salary, generous benefits and a dynamic, teamwork oriented technical environment. For immediate consideration, please forward your current resumé with 2X2 photo, including salary history, transcript of records and other supporting documents, to:

ATMAK CORPORATION
Phase 4, Block 18, Lots 1 & 3
Cavite Economic Zone
Rosario, Cavite
E-mail Address: atmak-corp@pacific.net.ph

no later than **10th of November 2003**. Schedule of interview and exam for qualified applicants is on November 17 ~ 19, 2003.

URGENT REQUIREMENT:

REFRIGERATION MANAGER
TO BE PART OF OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Our company, a renowned pioneer and leader in the refrigeration and air-conditioning industry in the country, is in search for a **REFRIGERATION MANAGER,** with a strong and solid background in both Refrigeration and Management, to be part of the management team.

Qualifications:

1. Mechanical Engineering graduate from a reputable engineering college or university.
2. Refrigeration experience as evidenced by his employment in other refrigeration companies both here and abroad.
3. Supervisory and Managerial work experience as evidenced by various positions he has assumed in past work experience.
4. Must be at least 35 years old and willing to assume key functions and responsibilities in the company.

An attractive and negotiable compensation package awaits this very urgent requirement. Kindly send your full resumé and work background to our e-mail address: unity@pworld.net.ph on or before Nov. 8, 2003.

PRODUCT DESIGNERS
DECORATIVE FURNISHINGS & FURNITURE

- **above industry salary**
- **travel opportunity**
- **long term employment**

Send in your resumé with 2x2 photo and sample of your work thru
Fax: 842-8698; talent@info.com.ph or P.O. Box 204 Ayala Alabang Muntinlupa
WILL ONLY ENTERTAIN APPLICANT WITH ATTACHED SAMPLE SKETCH

VSO

Sharing skills · Changing lives

VSO BAHAGINAN offers a unique opportunity for Filipino professionals to share their skills with the disadvantaged people of the developing countries in Asia, Africa, the Balkans and the Caribbean/Pacific region, while learning about other cultures. It also supports National Volunteering efforts.

VSO Bahaginan is currently recruiting Finance and Administrative Officer for a five months maternity leave cover. The position requires the staff to be responsible for the effective/efficient supervision of all the Finance and some aspects of administration work within VSO Bahaginan. The post reports directly to the Programme Manager

FINANCE and ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER CODE: FAO

Key responsibilities include.

1. As Finance Officer

Overview of the finance needs of the office, not just technical elements of the accounts, but also look at the other basic but critical systems such as filing and information system
Ensure that Bahaginan makes best use of its resources, without jeopardising effectiveness of the volunteer programme
Collaborate with VSO Bahaginan staff on the creation of Annual budgets and input these into the Sun Sytem computer accounts packages
Ensure the accurate and timely input of all income and expenditure movements into VSO's Sun system accounts package and the production and reconciliation of the monthly reports to be submitted to VSO UK
Monitor the budget and current expenditure, and recommend any remedial action to the Programme Manager
Ensure that VSO Accounting procedures/systems are effective and are being adhered to

2. As Administrative Officer

Conduct the routine office management, including management of Bahaginan assets, lease contracts, property insurance, licenses and permits.
Supervision of inventory and purchase of office supplies and equipment
Ensures adequate filing both paper and electronic
Ensure continuous and efficient communications – mail, e-mail, memorandum, etc.
Coordinate special events happening in the office

Qualifications required

At least 3 years related work experience, preferably with NGOs / volunteers
Strong finance management and accounting skills
Familiarity with international NGOs accounting systems, preferably Sun System
Excellent oral and written communication skills in English
Computer literate (word processing, spreadsheets, database, email)
Strong initiative, resourcefulness and inter-personal skills in cross-cultural context
Willing to make decisions and able to work with minimal supervision
Willing to occasionally work beyond office hours

Send in your detailed resumé and a letter of intent through email to jocelyn.bautista@vsoint.org

or via post mail to:

VSO Bahaginan
Unit 505, Pacific Corporate Center
131 West Avenue, Quezon City

Application deadline: November 07, 2003.
Successful Applicant must be able to begin December 1, 2003

DR. JESUS C. DELGADO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Invites Applicants for the following positions for immediate employment

OB-GYNE RESIDENTS (Accredited Training)
PEDIA RESIDENTS (Accredited Training)
MEDICAL/SURGICAL RESIDENT (Moonlighting)

- M/F, not more than 35 years old
- With good aptitude & scholastic record

[1] BUSINESS OFFICE SUPERVISOR

- M/F, not more than 35 years old
- B.S. Commerce, Accounting or Banking Finance major
- Must have supervisory experience in credit & collection with Good communication skills & computer literate
- Must be able to withstand pressure of work

[1] CHIEF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

- M/F, not more than 40 years old
- B.S. Radiologic Technologist
- Must be licensed
- Must have supervisory experience with Good communication skills & computer literate
- Must be able to withstand pressures of work

STAFF NURSES

- M/F, not more than 30 years old
- Must be licensed
- With good aptitude and scholastic records
- Preferably with experience, Computer literate

[1] COOK

- Male, single or married between 30 & 40 years old
- Preferably with extensive experience as domestic or commercial cook

Please submit personally your resumés, transcript and other credentials and latest 2x2 photo to the Personnel Department, No. 7 Kamuning Road, Quezon City.

SAN BENILDO INTEGRATED
SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC.
Marcos Highway Cainta, Rizal
Is in need of the following:

- GS Music Teacher
- Substitute Teachers in Math, Christian Living, English & Language

(Hiring Rate - Php11,500.00)

Applicants should bring the following:

- Letter of application & resumé with picture
- Transcript of records & recommendation from previous employer
- Photocopy of Birth & Baptismal Cert. NBI Clearance

For Inquiries call **6811718**

JOBMarket ONLINE VISIT US AT **www.jobmarketonline.com**

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

ADM/PRL SUPERVISOR

- Male, not more than 30 years old
- Industrial or Mechanical Engineering graduate
- Excellent supervisory skills
- Excellent in Personnel and Administrative affairs
- Excellent in verbal and written communication skills
- With good writing ability
- Computer literate

CO. NURSE/BENEFITS CLERK

- Male/Female not more than 30 years old, preferably single
- Registered nurse, with competency in area of benefits administration
- Above average oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate
- Can work with minimal supervision

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé indicating telephone/cell phone nos., recently taken 2x2 ID pictures, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

Box KA-014-02-CS
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
G/F Trinity Bldg., 4636 T.M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila
Email: prod_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
Subject: CS

BE PART OF OUR TEAM!

A NEW APPAREL BRAND is in need of the ff::

RETAIL TEAM LEADER / STYLIST

18-24 yrs. old
Single female
At least college level of any business course
Fluent in English
Has an excellent fashion sense
Must have an extensive knowledge of trends
Of good moral character
Naturally friendly

SALES ASSOCIATES

18-22 yrs. old
Single male or female
At least high school graduate
Fluent in English
Has a natural interest for fashion
Of good moral character
Naturally friendly

We OFFER:

A fun and learning environment
Self-development programs
Highly competitive compensation

Email your resumé (with picture) to:
cvephils@yahoo.com
Or mail to: CVE, INC.
3807 Paragon Plaza Condominium,
Edsa Cor. Reliance St., Mandaluyong City
Deadline for submission: Nov. 5, 2003

CLOTHING VALUES ENTERPRISES
INCORPORATED

GP GROUP OF COMPANIES

Serving the International Filipino Community

ACCOUNTING STAFF
- Male or female , 22 - 28 yrs. old
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Fresh graduates and new board passers are welcome
- Starting salary P7,500 - 8,500
- Computer literate

COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS
- Knowledge in web programming, Javascript, Perl, CGI, Php (Xbase SQL experience preferred), network operation, design & configuration and data communications
- Starting salary P 12,000 - 15,000

DESKTOP PUBLISHER
- Familiar with Adobe Photoshop, CorelDraw and other desktop applications.
- Knowledge in web design programming is an advantage
- Starting salary P 7,000 - 8,000

MARKETING STAFF
- Male, 21-25 yrs. old
- Graduate of any business related course
- Willing to be posted in Middle east

DRIVERS
- Male
- College graduate
- Drives 4-wheel vehicles
- Preferably with cargo and provincial driving experience
- Willing to drive in Manila and Province.

Interested applicants must report between 9am to 6pm with picture and pertinent documents at 402 P. Guevarra St. Brgy. Sta. Lucia, San Juan, Metro Manila (near Home Cable)
Tel. #: 727-1919 Email: info@pesocard.com
Visit: www.pesocard.com

IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES TO PASS THE NCLEX TEST

HERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A COMPREHENSIVE COURSE OF STUDY **IN THE U.S.** THAT PREPARES YOU FOR THE NCLEX EXAMINATION AND THAT WILL ALSO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

ANNA MARIA COLLEGE, a prestigious Catholic US College based in Worcester, Massachusetts, U.S.A., is now offering a one semester '15-week Intensive Course' for **Philippine Nurses.**

Applications to this "Foreign Nurses Study Program" must be submitted by Oct. 31, 2003 at the latest. A B.S. Nursing degree is the minimum requirement for acceptance into the program.

Course Content:
- Introduction to American Health Care System
- Health Care-related Computer Skills
- English Language Proficiency for Non-American Medical Workers
- Health Care Facility Field Experience
- NCLEX Practice and Review

Cost of Program: U.S. $10,000.00 includes tuition, room & board (3 meals/day x 7 days/week x 15 weeks) for one semester. All materials and practice tests are included in the tuition.
PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIP MAY BE AVAILABLE TO QUALIFIED CANDIDATES.

All non-US residents who apply and get accepted into the program will be awarded the US I-20 visa for lawful entry into the US. Payment of tuition fee (DIRECT TO THE COLLEGE) is the financial proof necessary for the grant of the US I-20 (In case the U.S. Embassy rejects the student's visa application, the total $10,000 will be refunded within 3 days.)

For more information and Application Form, call, fax, write or e-mail: Tel. (632) 8128185 / 8922775 / 8921727 / 7534769
Fax (632) 8167528
Add: U-607 Cityland 10 Tower 1 Dela Costa St.,
Ayala Ave., Makati City, Philippines
E-mail: pax@pax2003.com / Website: www.pax2003.com

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eo-executive optical

We are inviting aggressive and mature individuals to fill up vacant positions as we continue our commitment in giving the best quality service to our clients.

AUDIT SUPERVISOR
- Male/Female, not over 35 years old
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- 4 - 5 years experience as Audit Supervisor gained from either internal or external auditing
- Knowledgeable in all areas of audit
- Highly analytical
- Knowledgeable in MS Word and Excel
- With strong interpersonal skills

AUDITOR
- Male/Female, not over 35 years old
- Accounting graduate, Certified Public Accountant (CPA) an advantage
- At least 1 year experience in internal audit
- Highly analytical
- Knowledgeable in MS Word and Excel
- With strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to work with minimum supervision and maintain composure under pressure

BRANCH MANAGERS / ASST. BRANCH MANAGERS
- Male/Female, not over 35 years old
- Graduate of Business Administration or any related field
- At least 5 years solid experience in branch operations
- Preferably from a reputable fast-food chain or any retail operations industry
- Open to Metro Manila or provincial assignments (Baguio, Iloilo, Laguna, Lucena & Naga)

OPTOMETRISTS
- Male/Female, 21-29 yrs. old
- Graduate of Optometry (preferably licensed)
- Familiar with basic laboratory equipment
- With above average oral and written communication skills
- Willing to undergo rigid training
- Open to Metro Manila or provincial assignments (Cavite, Marilao, Lucena, Naga, Lipa, & Iloilo)

MARKETING SUPERVISOR
- Graduate of Marketing, Advertising, Communication Arts or Journalism
- At least 2 years experience in a Supervisory position
- Preferably from the retail operations industry
- Knowledgeable in Adobe, Corel Draw and Photo Shop is an advantage
- Excellent in interpersonal, oral and written communication skills
- Strong leadership qualities and decision making skills

OPTICIAN
- Male, not over 35 years old
- At least high school or vocational graduate
- Work experience is an advantage but those without experience are welcome to apply
- Willing to undergo at least 1month training

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN
- Computer Science or Computer Programming graduate
- At least 6 months experience in networking
- Knowledgeable in PC hardware operations and troubleshooting
- Knowledgeable in PC software programs

Interested applicants may send or submit personally their comprehensive resumés to:

HRD Department
EO-Executive Optical
7th Floor, Cedar Executive Bldg.
26 Timog Avenue cor. Scout Tobias, Quezon City
Tel.: 371-9211
email: hrd@eo-executiveoptical.com

INSTYLE

Authorized distributor of Gap, Banana Republic, Old Navy & Portland

is looking for dynamic individuals to fill the positions of

VISUAL MERCHANDISING ASSISTANT

He/she implements visual merchandise concept of Instyle.
- ✓ At least 2 years experience in visual merchandising
- ✓ Excellent in visual, written, oral and electronic presentation and communication
- ✓ Exceptional planning and organizing skills
- ✓ Must be willing to work over time if needed
- ✓ Possess initiative and attention to detail

SALES ASSOCIATES

that can be future Team Leaders
- ✓ Good communication skills
- ✓ Must be confident and self motivated
- ✓ Ability to work independently and in a team
- ✓ Competent, trustworthy, responsible and keen with details

Send your resumé to
Instyle Apparel, Inc.
2F Tesoro Bldg., 1016 Arnaiz Avenue, Makati 1223

Call Center Giant SYKES Holds Job Fair in Cebu this November!

SYKES **Asia will be holding its first major Job Fair at Cebu City to be held on** November 6, 2003, Thursday **at the** Ayala Activity Center, Cebu from 10:00am - 5:00pm

This Job Fair aims to draw a pool of talented workforce from the towns in Cebu and Mandaue cities and in the neighboring cities of Bacolod, Iloilo, Gensan, Cagayan de Oro, Davao and other provinces. This promises a long-term career development of Cebu professionals and a major boost to Mandaue City's local economy.

SYKES **Mandaue is Cebu's biggest outsourced call center with a state-of-the-art Facility. It currently houses over 200 seats and will expand to another thousand seats by 2004. The call center is now expanding to serve new and current customers.**

SYKES®

EVT
GROUP OF COMPANIES

Importer
Manufacturer
Distributor, Chain store
Building materials & Interior Décor

We need the best for expansion...
Luzon, Metro Manila, Visayas, Mindanao

Marketing Supervisor
College graduate, at least 2 years experience in building material sales.

Project Sales Consultants
Female or Male, college level, full time or part time, with very attractive commission incentives.

Showroom O.I.C.
Female, college graduate, preferably with some working experience, salary plus incentives.

Showroom Salesman
Male or Female, college level, wage rate plus commission.

Secretary
Female, college graduate of a reputable university, very pleasant personality with excellent communication skills.

Accounting Clerk, Supervisor
B.S. Accountancy graduate of reputable university
Company can provide free boarding house:
working place near U.P., Ateneo.
Chinese speaking a plus

H.R.D. Personnel
Female, graduate of a reputable university,
preferably w/ experience in Human Resource Management.

Furniture designer, Production Supervisor
at least 5 years experience

Accept working student for partime job.

Applicants for all of the above job openings must have excellent communication skills, proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and in excellent health.

Send your resumé, 2x2 present ID picture, transcript of records, a brief essay of at least 200 words describing yourself and an application letter stating the position you are applying for and why we should choose you over other applicants, to:

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT
#507 Raffles Corporate Center Emerald Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Metro Manila
Tel. No. 900-3333/900-3430
e-mail: evtpersonel@hotmail.com

Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club, Inc. is presently in need of competent individuals to fill the position of

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Male/Female, 25-35 years old
Graduate of any 4-year course
Previous experience in Sales would be an advantage

Interested applicants may send their resumé to:

Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club, Inc.,
Dagatan, Lipa City, Batangas
fax to (043) 756-7933,
e-mail at hrd@clubmalarayat.com

The Soon-to-open GRANDE ISLAND RESORT

A Private Resort in the middle of the SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE

IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL
(Generally, 2-3 yrs. Minimum experience)

A. HEAD OFFICE
- Senior Executive Assistant *

B. SALES MARKETING OFFICE
- Sales/Marketing Head *
- Sales/Marketing Officers

C. FRONT OFFICE
- Resident Manager
- Front Desk Clerks
- Reservations/Ticketing Clerks
- Housekeeping Team Leaders
- Bell Captain
- Telephone Operators
- Front Desk Supervisors
- Reservations Supervisor
- Housekeeping Supervisor
- Housekeeping Attendants
- Bellmen/Baghandlers
- Cashiers

D. HRD/ADMIN OFFICE
- HRD Head
- Personnel Clerks
- Water Sports Coordinator
- Personnel Supervisor
- Security Officer
- Lifeguards

E. ACCOUNTING OFFICE
- Senior Accountants
- Property Officers/Clerks
- Accounting Clerks
- Purchasing Clerks

F. FOOD AND BEVERAGE OFFICE
- Food and Beverage Head
- Cooks
- Bartenders
- Food and Beverage Supervisor
- Waiters

G. MIS OFFICE
- Network Specialist (Experienced in LAN/WAN, Fiber and Cats network cabling, and CISCO hubs/routers)

H. ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE OFFICE
- Electro-Mechanical Technicians (Generator sets, vehicles, construction equipment, telecom equipments)
- Mechanics (Generator sets, vehicles, construction equipment)
- Electricians (Building electricians, auto electricians)
- Plumbers
- Gardeners / Grass cutters

I. VESSEL / PORT OPERATIONS / MAINTENANCE
- Port Captain (Licensed Captain/Major Patron, experienced in passenger ferry port operations)
- Chief Engineer (Licensed 2nd Marine Engineer)
- Electronic Technician (Experienced in Ship/Bridge Control)
- Electro-Mechanical Technicians (Experienced in ship aircons, electrical control panels, other electro-mechanical related)

For Manila-based applicants, submit your resumé to:

GFTG PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORPORATION
2604-C 26th Flr., Tektite Tower East, Philippine Stock Exchange Bldg.,
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Tel. No. (02) 6352951-55
e-mail: hrd@grandeislandresort.com

For Subic-based applicants, submit your resumé to

GFTG PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORPORATION
Pier/Structure 684, Waterfront Road, Central Business District,
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Tel. No. (047) 252-3278
Attention: Ms. Leila V. Aviles

Note:
1. Please indicate the position applied for.
2. The Three (3) positions with * are to be based in our Tektite Tower Ortigas Office.
3. All other positions are to be based in Subic/Grande Island Resort.
4. There shall be a job/recruitment activity on November 5, 2003 (Wednesday) at our Subic Office.
5. Employment shall start in December 2003.

ADD | Force.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT AGENT

One of the leading call centers located in Ortigas is currently in need of inbound Technical Sup port Agents to provide voice support to North American clients/end-users. Graduates of computer-related courses will be given priority, and undergrads are welcome to apply .

The successful candidate must have:
1. A degree in any computer-related course or an extensive background in PC hardware troubleshooting.
2. A working knowledge of computer basics (Windows, Excel, Word, Email, Operating Systems, and the Internet).
3. Acceptable keyboarding skills.
4. Creative analytical problem solving skills.
5. Excellent oral and written English communication skills.
6. The willingness to work on a shifting/night schedule.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

A major call center located in Makati is currently in need of inbound Customer Service Representatives to provide voice support to their North American clients. Previous call center experience will definitely be an advantage, and fresh grads are welcome to apply.

The successful candidate must:
1. Have a degree in any four-year college course.
2. Have excellent oral and written English communication skills.
3. Be willing to work on a shifting/night schedule.

OUTBOUND CALL CENTER AGENT

A leader in the call center industry located in Ortigas is currently in need of Outbound Call Center Agents. The candidate will be responsible for direct contact with international customers and relaying product information via telephone. Previous sales/marketing experience will be an advantage but not a requirement. undergrads are welcome to apply.

The successful candidate must have:
1. A working knowledge of computer basics (Windows, Excel, Word, Email, Operating Systems, and the Internet).
2. Acceptable keyboarding skills.
3. Creative analytical problem solving skills.
4. Excellent oral and written English communications skills.
5. The willingness to work on a night/shifting schedule.

Interested applicants may get in touch with us at:
ADD Force Personnel Services
3rd Floor Pilar Building, 148 Amorsolo Street,
Legaspi Village, Makati City, Philippines
Tel. No.: 813-3000, loc. 308, 310, 314, 317
e-mail: **dhipe@add.com.ph**

Oxfam

Oxfam GB's purpose is to work with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering
Oxfam Great Britain's Philippine Programme needs a

Finance Assistant

Within the context of Oxfam Great Britain's development philosophy and its programme in the Philippines, the Finance Assistant will provide financial and general administrative assistance to the programme, participate as a regular member of the Program Services & Finance Team and contribute to the overall development of the Philippines Programme.

Key responsibilities:

- Ensure smooth, secure and efficient flow of daily financial transactions and documentation.
- Prepare monthly finance reports & reconciliations and any other financial reports that may be required
- Ensure efficient exchange and verification of financial information with other relevant Oxfam offices/staff
- Maintain a secure, efficient and reliable finance records and filing system
- Monitor consultants' fees and be responsible for ensuring withholding tax payments.
- Facilitate the completion of the annual external audit and other necessary audits.
- Be responsible for the submission of the quarterly/annual income tax return, the annual withholding tax reports to the BIR and the annual audited report to SEC.

Core Competencies:

- Organized, works effectively, self-managed and achieves results
- Able to work effectively with others
- Adaptable, with initiative and flexible

Essential Specifications

- Previous work experience in an NGO environment
- Excellent numeracy skills, basic accounting ability and practical experience in transaction processing and data handling
- Experience in computerized finance and information system and procedures
- Attention to details, order, method completion and results
- Flexible and able to prioritise own workload, to take initiative, work independently and meet deadlines
- Good interpersonal skills and communication skills, the ability to relate to people of all backgrounds
- Strong customer/client service orientation
- Knowledge and experience of efficient internal office communications, including an efficient filing system
- Good computer skills (Windows, Word, Excel, Access, Internet and email), preparedness to learn and manage computer software packages necessary for office work, especially those relating to finance systems.
- Fluent in written and spoken English and Filipino
- Commitment to Oxfam's GB's overall aims and objectives, including commitment to promoting gender equity in all aspects of work.

Desirable Specifications

- Formal training in Accounting

Submit application letter with complete CV to:

Human Resource and Administrative Officer
Oxfam Great Britain
95-A Malumanay street
Teachers' Village, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City
FAX: (02) 927-0499; EMAIL: etadeo@oxfam.org.uk

Closing date: 5 November 2003
Interview date: 12 November 2003

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified for the interview.

THE POST IS OPEN TO PHILIPPINE NATIONALS ONLY.

CPILS-CEBU

NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS

FULL-TIME ESL INSTRUCTORS

- Between 28-40 years old
- Preferably an Australian, American, Canadian and British citizen
- Preferably a holder of Philippine resident visa
- Preferably with bachelor's degree or CELTA/TEFL/TESL certificate
- Must be energetic, outgoing and creative
- Must possess good interpersonal skills

The Personnel Director, CPILS
Benedicto Building (formerly Harbor View Hotel)
M.J. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City Tel. # (032) 416-7637
Or e-mail: gracefb@mailcity.com

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Call for appointment:
Allan Biason at 531-1694 / 533-1568 to 69

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Attractive Income Package

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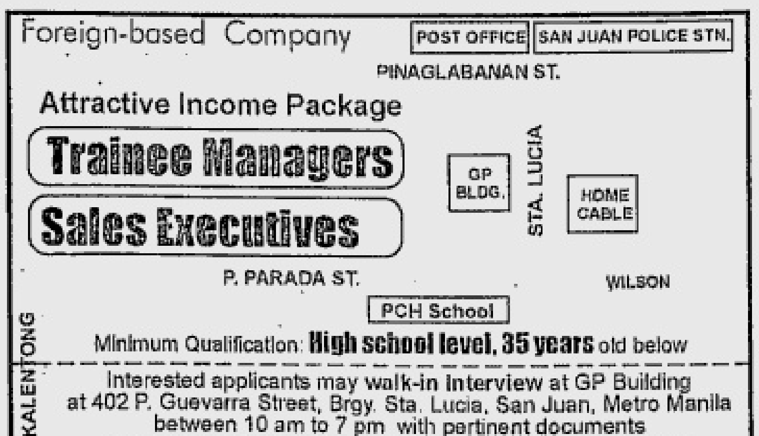

Minimum Qualification: **High school level, 35 years** old below

Interested applicants may walk-in interview at GP Building at 402 P. Guevarra Street, Brgy. Sta. Lucia, San Juan, Metro Manila between 10 am to 7 pm with pertinent documents or send thru registered **mail** or email to **gpkl@tm.net.my**

Opportunity knocks but once.

JOB MARKET

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Eurostyle Fashion, Inc.

An exclusive distributor of an Italian retail brand is looking for an

ASSISTANT OPERATIONS MANAGER

Credentials:

- 26-30 years of age
- College graduate
- Can communicate fluently in English
- Has an eye for fashion and trends
- Has good people and customer relation skills
- Can adjust to a diverse working environment
- Has experience in retail or management

Please send all resumé/CV to:

152-A Amoranto St., Quezon City
or call 416-0354 or 416-0362
and look for **LUCY** or **BENG**

BANCO DE ORO UNIBANK

We are in need of the following:

ACQUIRED ASSETS MANAGER (AAM)	Graduate of any business course; at least 5 years experience in property and lease management, acquired preferably from a bank; computer literate; good oral and written communication skills; not over 45 years old
REALTY SALES MANAGER (RSM)	College graduate; at least 5 years supervisory experience in sales and marketing, gained from a real estate company; good oral and written communication skills; not over 40 years old
BRANCH MANAGERS (BM)	Business course graduate, at least 5 years experience in branch operations and marketing in a commercial or universal bank; excellent managerial skills; able to implement effective marketing strategies; not over 40 years old
MARKETING OFFICERS (MO)	Business course graduate; at least 1 year experience in human relations or marketing related job; good communication skills; ability to speak Chinese an advantage; not over 35 years old
NEW ACCOUNTS TELLERS (NAT)	Graduate of any business course; good scholastic record; good communication skills; female, single, not over 25 years old
ACCOUNTING CLERKS (AC)	Graduate of any business course; at least 12 units in Accounting; above average scholastic standing; female, not over 25 years old
MOTORPOOL STAFF (MS)	College graduate, must be knowledgeable in vehicle maintenance, repairs, and LTO registration process; must know how to drive and possess a driver's license; computer literate; male, not over 25 years old
SIGNATURE VERIFIERS (SV)	Graduate of any business course; at least 2 years experience in a commercial bank as a New Accounts/Teller or Signature Verifier; must have undergone signature verification and analysis training; male, not over 30 years old

Please send your resume indicating position code and recent 2" x 2" photo and transcript of records to :
Human Resource Management
BANCO DE ORO UNIVERSAL BANK
#12 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
E-mail address : hrmd@bdo.com.ph

(PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY)

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mister Donut

To serve you BEST, we need the BEST!

Production Managers

Graduate of Industrial Engineering • Experience in manufacturing or production an advantage • Willing to work long hours and on a shifting schedule

Sanitary & Pollution Control Officer

Licensed Sanitary Engineer • With at least 2 years related experience

Liaison and Permits Officer

Graduate of at least a 2-year vocational course • With experience dealing with government agencies such as city/municipal halls, BIR, DTI, etc. • Willing to do fieldwork • Male

Auditors

Graduate of BS Accountancy with good scholastic records; preferably CPA • Computer literate; knowledge in SAP an advantage • With good analytical skills & can work under pressure

Kitchen Equipment Engineer

Graduate of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering • With at least 3 years experience in engineering design & maintenance & engineering economics • Knowledge in Autocadd an advantage

R & D Specialist

Graduate of BS Food Technology • With at least one (1) year experience as Technical Staff or Specialist gained from a bakeshop, confectionery, or donut business or at least knowledgeable in bakery ingredient analysis and production • Willing to work long hours • Computer literate • Based in or willing to be assigned to Canumay, Valenzuela City

Applicants for all of the above job openings must have excellent communication skills, proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, & PowerPoint, & in excellent health.

Send your resume, 2x2 recent ID picture, transcript of records, a brief essay of at least 200 words describing yourself & an application letter stating the position you are applying for & why we should choose you over other applicants, to:

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT
G/F Ramcar, Sct. Santiago cor. Marathon Sts.,
Diliman, Quezon City
E-mail: hrmd.recruitment@qualservcentral.com

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

MLM NETWORK DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS/SUPERVISORS

- Male / Female, College graduate, Not more than 30 years old (for supervisor / 40 years old (for Manager)
- Have at least 5 years (for managers) / 2 years (for supervisor) of well rounded experience on multi-level marketing recruitment operations.

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES

- Male, not more than 25 years old
- Pharmacy or marketing graduate

SALES ENGINEERS / ACCOUNT OFFICERS

- Male, Not more than 25 years old.
- Mechanical / Industrial Engineering graduate (for Sales Engineer).
- Marketing / Mass Comm (for Account Officer).
- Willing to do field works and undergo trainings.

ACCOUNTING STAFFS

- Male / Female, Accounting graduate.
- Have at least 2 years experience in accounting works.
- Preferably computer literate.

PHARMACISTS

- Male, Pharmacy graduate
- Knows how to process BFAD papers
- Preferably passed the Board

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

- Male / Female, College graduate

Apply in person or mail your resumé with picture to:
TAYTAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
822 Quezon Avenue, Carolina Bldg., Quezon City
(beside Pegasus Club) or email to info@taytan.com

Sports and Games Entertainment Corporation is a cutting-edge electronic company and we are in need of a dynamic individual for the following positions:

JUNIOR AUDITOR

- ☑ Graduate of BS Accountancy
- ☑ Male or female, not more than 26 years old
- ☑ Proficient in using Microsoft Office (Excel, Word)
- ☑ Can work with minimal supervision
- ☑ At least 2 years relevant experience
- ☑ With good moral character and pleasing personality
- ☑ Must possess analytical ability, flexible and with good communication skills

TRAINING ASSISTANT/STAFF

- ☑ Preferably male, 23-29 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any four-year course
- ☑ At least two years related work experience on training design, conduct and evaluation
- ☑ Effective interpersonal, leadership and team skills
- ☑ Excellent written and oral communication skills
- ☑ Computer literate

FIELD TECHNICIANS

- ☑ Male, 21-29 years old
- ☑ Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any related IT course
- ☑ With at least 1-2 years work related experience
- ☑ Proficient in Microsoft Operating System (Windows NT, Windows 2000 SERVER)
- ☑ With Internet application knowledge

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

- ☑ Female, 21-26 years of age
- ☑ Preferably graduate of 4-year computer course
- ☑ At least 1 year of related work experience
- ☑ Can work with minimal supervision
- ☑ Must possess analytical ability and flexible
- ☑ Excellent interpersonal skills and in oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Willing to work in shifting schedules
- ☑ Highly computer literate

GAMING ASSISTANTS

- ☑ Male/Female, 20-29 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year course
- ☑ Excellent interpersonal skills and in oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Background in Sales and Marketing an advantage
- ☑ Willing to work in shifting schedules and different location assignments
- ☑ Computer literate (MS Office, Internet, E-mail)

CASHIERS

- ☑ Female, 20-29 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year course
- ☑ Excellent interpersonal skills and in oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Experience in cashiering an advantage
- ☑ Can work with minimum supervision
- ☑ Willing to work in shifting schedules and different location assignments
- ☑ Computer literate (MS Office, Internet, E-mail)

You may send your resumé with 2x2 photo and transcript of records to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
SPORTS AND GAMES ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION
3/F Alsco Building, #116 VA Rufino Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City

Max's RESTAURANT

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

TRAINING OFFICERS

- ☐ Male/Female, college graduates, with above average communication skills and are computer literate;
- ☐ Have solid experience in restaurant operations training (dining, kitchen,housekeeping);
- ☐ Must be flexible, objective, and dynamic.

RECRUITMENT OFFICERS

- ☐ Male/Female, Psychology graduates, with solid experience in recruitment for all levels of the organization;
- ☐ Exposure in restaurant/service industry setting an advantage;
- ☐ Must be organized, innovative, and dynamic.

STORE MARKETING OFFICERS

- ☐ Male/Female, graduates of marketing or any related courses and are computer literate;
- ☐ Have solid experience in LSM (from conceptualization to post evaluation);
- ☐ Must have above average communications and interpersonal skills.

BANQUET AND SALES COORDINATORS

- ☐ Male/Female, college graduates, preferably of HRM, Tourism, PR, Business Administration, Mass Communication, Marketing, and other related courses;
- ☐ Must have a pleasant personality and above average English communication skills.

Interested applicants may send their resumés, photocopy of transcript of records and ID photo to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Max's Scout Tuazon Branch
21 Sct. Tuazon St., Brgy. Laging Handa,
Quezon City
E-mail: hrd@maxschicken.com

GROW WITH US !!!

A STABLE & EXPANDING INDUSTRY LEADER DEALING WITH WORLD CLASS BRANDS NEEDS HIGHLY MOTIVATED AND RESULTS DRIVEN PROFESSIONALS

▸ BRAND MANAGER

A business degree holder from a reputable school, not more than 35 years of age with at least 3 years solid all-around marketing work experience in the consumer industry; personable, motivated, and has excellent communication skills

▸ GRAPHIC ARTIST

Female, a graduate of Advertising or Computer-related course, not more than 30 years of age, with a minimum of 1-2 years experience in designing creative artwork using PC, proficient in COREL and ADOBE software, preferably has web design experience, meticulous and patient

▸ LOGISTICS & INVENTORY STAFF

Female, a graduate of Industrial Engineer or any related course, not more than 30 years of age, 1-3 years working experience in warehouse operations and inventory control; has knowledge in documentation; computer literate, can work under pressure

▸ PROGRAMMER

A graduate of any I T course, not more than 30 years of age, more than 2 years related work experience, knowledgeable in visual basic, web-based application, and SQL database and MS Access data migration to SQL7; focused, organized and systematic

▸ INTERIOR DESIGNER

An Interior Design or Architecture graduate, not more than 28 years of age, has at least one year work experience preferably in selling high-end kitchen appliances, kitchen cabinets, and furniture, familiar with Autocad; personable, creative

A competitive compensation package awaits qualified candidates
Fax or send in your resume (include salary history, photo, contact numbers and position applying for) to 634-6738 or
FGI P.O. Box 1688 MCPO, Makati City 1256

Chowking

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Apply ka na rin!

CHEF CONSULTANT

-Culinary/food expert backed with years of food preparation experience.
-Hardworking with high sense of urgency and can work with a team.
-Can work for long hours in the development and perfection of your art.

STORE MANAGER

-Male or Female, not more than 35 years old.
-College graduate of any four (4) year course.
-With at least three (3) year managerial experience in retail, manufacturing, fast food, or any service oriented business.
-Must be a bonafide resident of Bulacan, Quezon City, Manila and Angeles.
-People-oriented with good P.R.
-Articulate possesses strong leadership ability.
-Flexible & willing to work on rotating shifts.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

-Male or Female, not more than 27 years old.
-A graduate of any BS HRM, BSC, Management, Marketing, Accounting, Economics, Business Administration, Financial Management, or any business related course.
-Must be a bonafide resident of Manila, Makati, Parañaque Quezon City, Novaliches, Las Piñas, Cavite, Bulacan and Angeles.
-Articulate, presentable and smart.
-People oriented with good salesmanship skill.
-Flexible and willing to work on rotating shifts.

ACCOUNTANTS

-Male or Female, not more than 25 years old.
-A graduate of BS Accountancy.
-CPA preferred but not required.
-With at least 2-3 years experience in bookkeeping, treasury and general accounting functions under a computerized environment.
-Analytical with good supervisory skill.

STORE CREW

-Male or Female, not more than 22 years old.
-Preferably college level or at least a high school graduate.
-Must have a charming personality with flexible schedule and willing to work on rotating shifts.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY APPLY IN PERSON AND SUBMIT THEIR BIO-DATA/RESUME W/ CREDENTIALS TO:

HR RECRUITMENT
CHOWKING CORPORATE OFFICE
7th Floor, Jollibee Center, San Miguel Avenue,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
roshellr@chowking.com or jericp@chowking.com

PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT RE-APPLY

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Legendary Service @ Lowest Cost

By taking advantage of time zone differences, bulk international call rates, cutting edge technology and a skilled workforce, Contact World introduce a new concept in teleservices and Call Center application.

Contact World has stringent selection criteria and ongoing performance and quality monitoring process. We invest in our people so we can retain and further develop their skills. We train and retrain, nurture and reward quality and productivity because ***this*** is our business.

Our fast growing call center company, which caters to both local and foreign clientele, is in need of dynamic and full-time personnel.

WE URGENTLY NEED
Technical Support Specialists

REQUIREMENTS:

- Graduate of any 4-year computer related course or equivalent work experience
- Excellent listening, oral, and written communication skills
- Knowledgeable in PC Architecture and trouble shooting, Operating Systems and Internet Applications
- Comfortable using online and other research tools
- Willing to work on shifting schedules / Graveyard Shift.

Interested applicants are requested **to apply in person** with their curriculum vitaé and 2x2 picture.

CONTACT WORLD, INC.
22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail at : recruitment@contactworld.com.ph
Or visit our website at www.contactworld.com.ph
8600000 / 8601032

Previous applicants need not apply.

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Our aim: Providing strong leadership in the customer service industry.

There is no way but up...
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- INBOUND SALES ASSOCIATES
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF
- CUSTOMER CARE SUPERVISORS
- CUSTOMER CARE MANAGERS
- MEDICAL CODING PROFESSIONALS
- REGISTERED NURSES

- QUALITY ASSURANCE DIRECTOR
- PROCESS SPECIALISTS

- WORKFORCE MONITORS
- WORKFORCE ANALYSTS

- TRAINING SPECIALISTS

- CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
- NETWORK ENGINEERS
- IT NETWORK SUPPORT STAFF

- BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
- SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER
- SALES AND MARKETING SUPERVISORS

- EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS
- ADMIN ASSISTANTS

- HR DIRECTOR
- HR PROFESSIONALS

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We are seeking pro-active, dynamic individuals for our clients in the Hospitality industry.

Our company is continuously searching for high-caliber professionals from entry level positions up to General Managers. Following is a list of current openings:

- **Executive Chefs and Kitchen Staff**
- **F&B Managers and Service Staff**
- **Sales and Marketing Managers and Account Executives**
- **Japanese Sales Manager**
- **Financial Controllers and Administration Staff**
- **Rooms Division Managers and Rooms Division Staff**
- **Human Resources Managers and Staff**
- **Chief Engineers and Staff**
- **Front Office Managers**
- **Customer Service Agents**

If you want to explore what the world of hospitality has to offer, send us your resumé. Your application will be treated in strictest confidence.

Mail or E-mail to:

Suite One, 3rd Floor, Legaspi Towers 300,
Roxas Blvd. cor Vito Cruz, Malate, Manila
E-mail: omnibus@hspi.org

Bayer CropScience
BioScience

Bayer CropScience, Inc. in the Philippines is currently accepting applicants for its BioScience Business expansion for the position of:

ZONAL MANAGER - LUZON

QUALIFICATIONS:

- ✓ At least 3 years work experience in a managerial capacity; MBA is an advantage
- ✓ Proven track record in sales; preferably in agricultural inputs for field crops
- ✓ Graduate of a marketing, commerce or agricultural course
- ✓ Male; at least 30 years old
- ✓ Proactive and team player
- ✓ Good customer service skills
- ✓ Excellent communication skills in both oral and written
- ✓ Proficient in computer applications
- ✓ Willing to relocate in area of assignment
- ✓ Willing to undergo at least 1 month training

ONLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE CONSIDERED. **Qualified applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 photo not later than October 30, 2003 at the following address:**

Bayer CropScience, Inc.
c/o Ms. Cookie D. Ronquillo
Human Resources Department
3rd Floor, Bayer House
Canlubang Industrial Estate
Calamba, Laguna 4028

Cinderella

Cinderella Group, as a Leader among Fashion Retailers in the Philippines, would like to invite Highly Qualified individuals to join and be part of the Re-Engineered Dynamic and Creative Management Team.

STORE MANAGERS

- ☐ Male or Female; between the ages of 24 to 30
- ☐ Graduate of any business related course; computer literate
- ☐ Related experience in selling environment
- ☐ Excellent organizational and people handling skills
- ☐ Computer literate and highly results-oriented
- ☐ At least 2 to 3 years experience in fashion retailing

MERCHANDISE MANAGER/ BRAND MANAGER

- ☐ Graduate of any business related course preferably with MBA degree/units
- ☐ Minimum of two (2) years experience in product management and development of fast moving consumer products in a management capacity
- ☐ Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, and creative with good fashion sense
- ☐ With excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☐ Financial awareness-bottomline driven; willing to travel

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

- ☐ 24 to 29 years old, creative; works under pressure
- ☐ MassCom or Advertising graduate
- ☐ Knowledgeable of advertising requirements, observations and conceptualizing/implementing market planning, promotion & launching campaigns
- ☐ Can develop creative and effective advertising concepts
- ☐ At least 2 years experience in the same position

BUYERS *for Cosmetics & Children's/Ladies'/Men's Apparel*

- ☐ Female; between the ages 24 to 30
- ☐ Graduate of any business related course preferably a degree in Fashion Merchandising
- ☐ Experience in preparing sales analysis, merchandise distribution and stock allocation is an advantage
- ☐ Must be computer literate and has strong numerical sense
- ☐ Willing to travel

VISUAL DISPLAY ARTIST

- ☐ Male or Female; 22 to 30 years old
- ☐ Graduate of Fine Arts, Interior Design or Architecture
- ☐ At least 1 year experience in visual merchandising
- ☐ Creative and can work under pressure; must be computer literate

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at:

The HRMD
Cinderella Marketing Corporation
#825 EDSA, South Triangle, Quezon City
or e-mail at: lmptd@pacific.net.ph

FISHERS OF MEN
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"Your Service Provider of Choice"

JOB & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES!!!

For our Clients (Offices, Factories, Hospitals, Restaurants, Hotels, Supermarkets and Department Stores) based in Metro Manila and neighboring towns.

Sales & Marketing
- Mktg. Product, & Sales Mgrs.
- Sales Engineers
- Account Executives
- Store Supervisors
- Sales Reps/Med. Reps
- Telemarketers, Call Ctr. Agents
- Customer Service Staff
- Sales Consultants, Salesladies
- Promo Girls & Promodisers

Office & General Services
- Exec. Assts., Admin Assts., Clerks Secretaries & Encoders
- HR Mgrs. & HR Assistants
- Management Trainees
- Receptionists, Telephone Operators
- Company/Family Drivers
- Construction & Skilled Workers
- Helpers & Janitors

Accounting/Banking and Finance
- Accountants & Auditors
- Controllers & Bookkeepers
- Payroll Assistants & Cashiers
- Purchasing & Inventory Staff
- Tellers, Credit & Collection Assts.

Hotel & Restaurant/ Food Service
- PR Managers
- Chefs (Executive, Sous, etc.)
- Outlet Managers
- Waiters & Bartenders
- Service Crew & Food Attendants

Production/Manufacturing
- QC / QA Managers & Staff
- Line Leaders & Crew
- Machine Operators
- Helpers & Warehousemen
- Cutters, Sewers, Trimmers, Packers
- Upholsterer, Assembler, Carpenter

Interested candidates can apply personally and bring their resumés and other credentials to:

FISHERS OF MEN MANPOWER SERVICES, INC.
4/F Aurora (Alabang) Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd., Alabang, Muntinlupa
(across Madrigal Business Park, beside Abenson-Alabang)
Tel. No.: 772-2946 / Telefax: 772-3811 E-mail: fishers@philonline.com

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MSI DIGILAND (PHILS.), INC.

Great Products.
Great Services.
Great People.

Make waves in the IT industry

PRODUCT MANAGERS

- Male/Female, not more than 32 years old
- Should have at least 2 years substantial product management experience obtained from IT firms
- Should possess exceptional interpersonal and people-handling skills, highly confident and aggressive
- Will be responsible in handling pricing, revenue and profitability, inventory and promotions aimed at establishing market leadership in one of the following products:
  - PC DESKTOP & NOTEBOOK
  - GRAPHICS • PERIPHERALS
  - SOFTWARE • COMMODITY
  - NETWORKING • CONSUMABLES

SALES OFFICERS

- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of Business, Marketing, or IT-related courses
- Should possess exceptional interpersonal and communication skills, highly confident and aggressive
- With at least 1 year sales experience in one of the following groups:
  - PC DESKTOP & NOTEBOOK
  - GRAPHICS • PERIPHERALS
  - SOFTWARE • COMMODITY
  - NETWORKING • CONSUMABLES

Credit & Collection Assistant

- Female; not more than 27 years old
- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- With at least 1 year experience in handling demo and consignment as well as petty cash
- Should be detail and result-oriented
- Willing to work long hours

MARCOMM ASSISTANT

- Female, not more than 27 years old
- Graduate of Mass Communications or Advertising
- Should be imbued with excellent interpersonal skills and communication skills
- Detail and result-oriented
- With at least 6 months experience in PR writing and/or events management

TELESALES ASSISTANT
(Project Basis)

- Female, not more than 27 years old
- Graduate of Business, Marketing, Communication Arts or IT-related courses
- Possess exceptional communication skills and a strong inclination toward a career in sales
- Preferably with at least 6 months of exposure in a call center

Interested parties may send their letter of application and comprehensive resume' with colored photo to:

The Human Resources & Administration Division
MSI-DIGILAND (PHILS.) INC.
Topy II Building 3 Economia Street, Libis Quezon City 1110
Fax: (02)688-3590 • Email: dphr@msi-digiland.com.ph

www.msi-digiland.com

HHC Food Corporation is in need of qualified, highly motivated, ambitious, and high caliber individuals for its expansion program.

Assistant Store Managers

- Male or Female, between 23 and 28 years of age
- College degree holder of BS Hotel and Restaurant Management, BS Business Administration Major in Management or any related course, must be fluent in English/Tagalog, oral & written
- At least 1-2 years experience as an Assistant Store Manager in the Quick Service Industry
- Willing to undergo extensive training and have a rotating work schedule, must be able to work with minimal supervision
- Must be a team player, knows how to handle people properly, discipline, mature, professional, meticulous with details, has initiative, and committed to the company mission, vision, and values.

Please hand carry your comprehensive curriculum vitaé with formal 2" x 2" (passport size) colored picture, letter of application stating expected salary, contact phone number and a photocopy of Transcript of Records to:

HHC Food Corporation
Boniwood Building
#6 A. Bonifacio Rd.
La Loma, Quezon City
Philippines
Tel: 731-19-89 or 740-21-32
Contact Person: Me-ann or Pamie

HR director's extra challenge: growing from one to 3,000

By Candy G. Villanueva

HR FOCUS

HOW many employees can claim that they are employee number one? Probably not many, but Penny Sicangco Bongato can. Penny is the first employee hired by Convergys Philippines. She was with the company right from its conception. And once on board, she was given her biggest challenge: to start the company from scratch and grow it to 3,000 employees on its first year of operations. Her next biggest challenge, together with her team, is to develop strategies to make Convergys "different from the other contact centers in the country." As HR director, Penny is responsible for the recruitment, human resource operations and employee relations functions for all Convergys centers in the Philippines.

Hailed by her Excellency Gloria Macpagal-Arroyo as "the largest customer care company in the world," Convergys Philippines is an integrated contact center that provide both customer care support and advanced technical help desk services via email, voice, and Web chat as well as "back office" application and document processing with contact centers in Makati and Pasig.

Learning the business

Penny started her career as a marketing assistant for Rizal Cement Corporation. A graduate of De La Salle University with two Engineering degrees, Chemical and Industrial Management, Penny then worked in San Miguel Corporation as an industrial engineer and was able to apply what she learned in school.

Less than two years after, Penny moved to Kodak Philippines. Armed with a master's degree in business from the Ateneo Graduate School of Business, Penny was able to test her mettle in the different aspects of business in Kodak. She got exposed to inventory planning, information systems, market and business research, customer service, warehousing, transportation and then, finally, human resources management.

Fifteen years with Kodak provided Penny with "in depth knowledge of how businesses operate and how a business can truly be successful." She further enhanced her HR skills when she moved to Headstrong Philippines Inc. as HR Manager. Seven months ago, Penny joined Convergys and helped start the company.

Mother image

Penny is happily married to Sammy Bongato and has four children, Miguel, Paulo, Mico and Mikee. When she joined Convergys, she "adopted" 500 more kids into her fold. "Being the HR director, I call all the employees of Convergys Philippines as my children."

Convergys' "mother figure" relies on her HR team of 15 to look after her extended family. "All of us are part of the pioneer team of Convergys. When I was recruiting the members of the team (note that our HR group was the very first department to be completely staffed), I wanted to make sure the ones who will be part of the team are those who can think out of the box, those who can take the challenge in building the organization from scratch, who can conceptualize, develop, implement and monitor systems and processes and yet be flexible when the need arises."

With this daunting task, Penny constantly challenges her team. "I believe that one of the best ways for people to learn is by doing it themselves, letting them think, make suggestions, create the concept, ask the opinions of others, develop and design programs, and if approved, implement and monitor." She adds, "I do give my suggestions and recommendations. However, I would like to make sure that they understand why I agree or do not agree with them. I always say that one is allowed to make a mistake once, as long as you don't commit the same mistake again."

Focusing on goals

An avid reader, Penny believes reading is one of the best ways to improve one's self. It is from John Maxwell's "The Roadmap for Success" and Stephen Covey's "7 Habits" that she derives most of her work and life principles.

Posted on her office corkboard is a poster that states, "Focus on goal." She has a list of her dreams and professional, family and personal goals. This list also includes her short, medium and long term plans. "This helps me focus on what I want to achieve in life and I go for it," Penny explains.

"I list my goals at the beginning of the year or whenever there is a significant event in my life, like moving to Convergys. As of this date, I have achieved my short term and medium term professional goals. I need to work on my family and personal goals now."

The road to every goal is littered with bumps and potholes. Penny moves ahead without stepping on the breaks. "Disappointments and failures do come. They are part of life. However, failure is truly a failure when you give up and not learn from that experience," she explains. "Do the best you can in everything you do and the rest will follow."

Company values

Penny says she is happy with Convergys because the company shares the same values she believes in. She values client satisfaction, teamwork, respect for the individual, diversity and integrity. "These values guide us on how we treat each other and how we do our work. We have various programs that center on our values," says Penny of Convergys. "We have the kind of environment, the culture which displays our values, working as a team, understanding your peers, colleagues, staff and leaders, doing as you committed, communicating to one another."

Only time will tell if Penny will venture into other departments or fields in the future. "If the company sees that I am fit for another role, a bigger role, I may just take the challenge. I haven't really been directly involved in sales, business development or general management. Perhaps I could be exposed to these areas someday." In the meantime, when not working on her long-term plans, Penny can be found working on her smaller goals. In her spare time, you will find her with her husband sharing goals and dreams, running along Roxas Boulevard.

CONVERGYS' Employee number one, Penny Sicangco Bongato

CONVERGYS' HR team. (Front row L-R) MM Santiago, Frances Libres, Penny Bongato, Joji Aguila, Amy Morella, Krissy Maxino; (Second row L-R) Recy Palugod, Robynne Gomez, Edna Pangilinan, Alex Raymundo, Jill Reyes; (Third row L-R) Eric Concepcion, Jay Vergonia, Wak Solis-Laqui, Derrick Lee. Not in picture: Jon Martirez.

The leading company in a wood based industry is in need of the following personnel:

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The candidate will be trained to handle the production department of a medium-sized company.

- ✔ Industrial Engineering graduate
- ✔ Currently occupying or has held a supervisory position in a professionally-run manufacturing company.
- ✔ Male, 25-30 years old
- ✔ Must be aggressive, self-motivated, ambitious, with leadership
- ✔ Willing to be based in Cabuyao, Laguna

ACCOUNTING AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- ✔ CPA or at least 5 years experience in accounting and office administration
- ✔ Female, 25-30 years old
- ✔ Self-starter, well-organized

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- ✔ Accounting graduate with at least 1 year experience
- ✔ Female, single, not more than 25 yrs. old
- ✔ Computer literate

PURCHASING CLERKS

- ✔ Graduate of any Management course with at least one year experience in general purchasing dept.
- ✔ Male, not more than 28 years old
- ✔ Driving knowledge an advantage

Applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive bio-data, transcript of records, 2x2 pictures at:

TRANS-ASIA WOOD, Incorporated
No. 1 North Sikap, Plainview,
Mandaluyong City
532-6274 / 76 / 77 (Mabel); e-mail at:
info@tawi.com.ph

Philippine Bobbin Corporation (PBC), a tobacco-processing company, located in EPZA (Cavite), needs to employ a:

PRODUCTION HEAD SUPERVISOR

Duties:

- ✔ To acquire a perfect knowledge of the range of products (specifications, dies, tobacco yield, ...)
- ✔ To ensure the effective implementation of production plans and to optimize the adequacy between inventories, machines and manpower
- ✔ To supervise a manpower of 120+ operators and 10+ supervisors and to draw their attention on new yield and/or quality matters

Skilled required:

- ✔ Engineering Graduate (pref. Industrial)
- ✔ At least 2 years supervisory experience in manufacturing activity
- ✔ Knowledge in Production Planning, Inventory Management and HR Management
- ✔ Leadership, responsibility, autonomy, sense of initiative and team spirit
- ✔ 25-30 years old / Computer literate

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive bio-data thru e-mail (esuralta@philbobbin.ph) or thru mail at Philippine Bobbin Corporation, EPZA, Phase II, Rosario, Cavite.

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

A multinational company, engaged in manufacturing & packaging of cosmetics products is in need of dynamic, aggressive & result oriented people to fill in the following positions:

PLANT MANAGER*

- College Grad or w/ Masteral Degree
- With at least 1-2 yrs. exp. in operations or its equivalent
- Must have very good managerial skills

HEAD MAINTENANCE*

- Grad of any Technical or Engg. course
- With at least 1 yr. experience in handling of plant machineries & equipment

QA ASSISTANTS*

- Grad of BS Chem., BS Chem'l Engg. or Licensed Pharmacist

Additional qualifications for the above positions:

* Proficient in Microsoft Windows
Must be technical and analytical
Must be willing to work long hours & to be assigned outside Mla.
Must be very organized
Must be good in written & oral communications

Interested parties may apply in person or may send their resumé with credentials at 271 T. Santiago St., Vicente Reales, Malanday, Valenzuela City or email to ipic@pacific.net.ph

We are a Manufacturing Company of consumer products with nationwide distribution and belonging to the Top 1000 Corp. We have vacancies for:

MARKETING ASSISTANT / BRAND ASSISTANT

- Male or Female
- Not more than 30 years old
- BSC Graduate major in Marketing
- Must have good scholastic record
- Must be proficient in oral & written communication skills
- Must be honest, trustworthy & diligent

SALES SUPERVISOR

- Male or Female
- Not more than 35 years old
- Must have good personality
- BSC Graduate major in Marketing or related course
- Preferably with experience in sales of consumer products
- Must have good scholastic record
- Must be proficient in oral & written communication skills
- Must be honest, trustworthy & diligent

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

- Male or Female
- Not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of business or related course
- With good scholastic record
- Must have good personality
- Must be honest, trustworthy & diligent
- Must be willing to do field work

Please send resumé, transcript of records & passport size photo to:

P.O. BOX NO. 12940, Ortigas Center Post Office, Pasig City

Asia Resource Alternatives, Inc.
is in need of

MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL, CHEMICAL, and ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS Engineers

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- ➢ PRC license holders
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- ➢ willing to travel extensively
- ➢ experience with heat exchangers and with Japanese companies are advantages

Send applications by email to:

lissa@sms-global.net

Position-specific requirements and package benefits can be obtained by email, too.

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- ➢ With good communication skills
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- ➢ *But High School Graduates may apply
- ➢ For Male Crew, must have knowledge in basic kitchen procedures

Please apply in person with bio-data & 2x2 picture at

Lydia's Lechon - 49 A. Roces Avenue cor. Scout Reyes, Quezon City on October 27-30, 2003; 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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Travel opportunities await qualified applicants.

Pls. bring resume and 2"x2" photo

Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2003 1-3 p.m.
Business Center / Ground Floor
MANILA PEN
Business Center
Ayala Ave., Makati City
Look for JoJo or Cathy

DESIGNERS / DEVELOPERS

- ✧ 1-2 years experience in Web & Graphic Design
- ✧ Detailed experience of Photoshop & Dreamweaver
- ✧ Knowledge in any of the ff: HTML, PHP, Perl, ASP, SQL, MySQL, ColdFusion, a plus
- ✧ Knowledge in any of the ff: Flash, Freehand, Fireworks, Image Ready, Swift 3D, a plus
- ✧ Degree in Fine Arts, CoE, ECE and other IT fields
- ✧ Excellent command of Oral and Written English
- ✧ Willing to work on shifting schedule
- ✧ Male, at least 21 years old

TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF

- ✧ 1-2 years Linux/NT Systems administration
- ✧ Previous employment in an ISP/Hosting firm, a plus
- ✧ Degree in CoE, ECE and other IT fields
- ✧ Excellent command of Oral and Written English
- ✧ Willing to work on shifting schedule
- ✧ Male/Female, at least 21 years old

DEVELOPERS / PROGRAMMERS

- ✧ Bachelor's Degree in any IT course, preferably Computer Science/Engineering
- ✧ Minimum 2 years working experience in web development in any of the ff:
  - ■ **JAVA, JSP, ASP, ASP.net, PHP, Perl**
  - ■ **CFM, MS SQL, MySQL, Oracle**
  - ■ **HTML, CSS, JavaScript**
- ✧ Familiar in Linux/Windows administration
- ✧ Can work with minimal supervision
- ✧ Strong analytical and interpersonal skills
- ✧ Excellent oral and written English
- ✧ Willing to work on shifting schedules
- ✧ Male/Female, at least 22 years old

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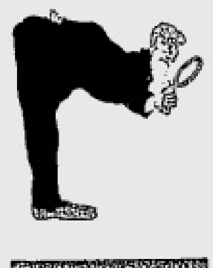

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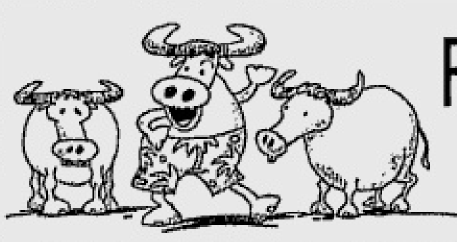

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From page K23

its permanent home in Magallanes, Makati City in 1992.

Through the years, HCMI expanded its network of dealerships. It continued to grow with the establishment of Honda Cars Pasig in March 1994, which is known for its extensive work bays and body repair areas. The continuous growth of residents in Alabang in October 1996, backed by years of collective experience, HCMI further increased its operations of Honda Cars Shaw in March 1998.

Armed with the vigor to achieve the highest form of customer satisfaction, we trusted in our core competence – professional management. AT HCMI, we make it a never-ending quest to achieve the highest form of service excellence. We are committed not only to meet but to surpass customers' expectations. This is our own exacting code for keeping in touch with you and our uncompromising commitment towards dealership excellence of world class stature.

LINK2SUPPORT, INC.
LINK2SUPPORT is a world class technical contact center which is operational 24/7. It was originally established to render phone, email and chat support to clients of Linksys a division of Cisco Systems.

Now, Link2Supportalso offers web and multimedia development and system integration as well. Link2Support has a workforce of over 800 product Support Representatives, composed mainly of licensed Engineers and degree holders of IT-related courses who are fluent in conversational English, highly skilled and knowledgeable with the latest trends in computer networking.

Our vibrant environment and state-of-the-art facilities make us an ideal partner in jumpstarting your career in the field of new-age information technology.

MAGASAYSAY MARITIME CORPORATION
MAGSAYSAY Maritime Corporation (MMC) has been providing competent crew for both cargo and luxury cruise ships since the 1970's and 1980's.

With our long track record, MMC is now a leading player in the Philippine manning industry. We count among our principal key players in chemical, container, pure car carrier bulk and general cargo operations and leading cruise operators in Europe, America and Asia-Pacific.

MMC's excellent pool of quality officers and crew is a product of concerted efforts in the recruitment, screening, selection and maintenance of each principal's fleet pool. They undergo careful screening based on the highest standards of qualifications set by both MMC and their respective principals. MMC assigns a fleet staff exclusively dedicated for each principal to manage the principal's pool of seafarers.

MARIE-FRANCE
OUR companies, Marie-France Bodyline International, Inc., Facial Care Center, Svenson International and Pacific Asian Advertising Specialists Inc. are renowned internationally in the service-oriented business with branches throughout Europe and Asia. We specialize in introducing and utilizing technologically advanced techniques in slimming, skin care and hair restoration that are proven safe and effective over the years.

Our primary objective is to provide and maintain our renowned high quality services that will ultimately satisfy our clientele. To achieve this we shall: deliver services to our clientele efficiently and effectively; continuously improve and upgrade our various services; and regularly train, develop and motivate our employees to increase productivity and profitablitity.

Through the years, the company has steadily grown and has continuously maintained its status as the leader in the beauty-related industry. It is only having professional and a highly qualified workforce that we are able to achieve this. If you possess the qualities we're looking for, we are challenging you to be part of us.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
THE Philippine Daily Inquirer was born during the last days of the Marcos regime. Its maiden issue, published on December 9, 1985 sold merely, 30,000 copies. Today, the Inquirer dominates all other newspapers in readership in virtually every socio-economic class in the Philippines and its circulation continues to grow at a rate higher than the industry's. Its trademark balanced news, fearless views style of reporting has won the Inquirer over 100 journalistic awards, more than any other newspaper in the history of Philippine journalism. The Inquirer is arguably the most influential news organization in the country and continues to be the benchmark among news media groups around the country.

PROFESSIONAL STAFFERS / STAFFBUILDERS ASIA
PROFESSIONAL Staffers, a division of John Clements Consultants, Inc., is the pioneer and leading firm in professional staff recruitment. The company has been placing professionals from staff to junior managerial level with top multinational and local firms for more that twenty-five year. Its vision is to be the leader in professional staff and junior managerial recruitment through consistent enhancement of its processes and by developing partnerships with its customers and suppliers (candidates) thereby, ensuring continuous growth for the company. What the company offers to job aspirants is the opportunity to explore varied career opportunities with its clients. Whether for current or future manpower requirements of these client companies, it would be worthwhile for individuals to be included in the pool of talents. The company can provide access to job opportunities, not all of which are advertised, which it handles for clients and the option to consider higher job responsibilities or better remuneration packages. Companies need not undergo the tedious steps involved in the search and selection process. Talents need not go through the exhausting process of direct job applications.

Staffbuilders Asia (SB Asia), a division of the John Clements Consultants Group, is a pioneer and innovator of staffing services in the Philippines with proven track record of close to two decades, servicing major multinational companies. We are engaged in the recruitment of technical, office, skilled and unskilled personnel/workers for temporary job contracting as well as outsourced and project-based requirements. We are an overall personnel management solutions provider to clients who have continuously availed of our services. We utilize advanced methods of selection of candidate, which have been proven over the years to yield quality candidate, thus, making SBAsia the consistent leader in its industry.

SPORTS and GAMES ENTERTAINMENT (SAGE)
SPORTS and Games Entertainment (SAGE) was formed in 1998 for the purpose of offering Internet Gaming in the Philippines. In the same year, SAGE was awarded a license by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), the government body that regulates and manages gaming in the Philippines, to offer "...any game of chance of the Internet for foreign and domestic players..." SAGE Casino is Asia's first Internet Casino—A cutting-edge electronic entertainment. SAGE Casino is exclusively licensed, regulated and guaranteed by the Philippine Government through its Regulatory Body, the PAGCOR.

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SM Department Store is the heart of SM's retail network. With branches strategically located in Metro Mania and in the southern Philippine cities of Iloilo and Cebu, it is acknowledged innovator and trendsetter in the Philippine retail scene. SM Department store's popular theme "We've Got It All" has, through the years, become the country's unofficial shopping anthem for generations of shoppers from all walks of life. At SM there has been an exciting merchandise mix, world-class interiors, a one-stop shopping concept, service and value-plus pricing that have made it part of the lives of many Filipinos. SM had its beginnings when Henry Sy, Sr. opened the first Shoemart store on October 1958 in downtown Manila. The company expanded its shoe store chain in the sixties, and marked its shift from a store to a full line department store in the '1970s. Today, SM is a dynamic group of companies committed to the highest level of talent, service and expertise in the retail merchandising and shopping center industries. SM has been named one of Asia's most admired companies in surveys undertaken by a prestigious Asian business magazine. More recently, it has been honored as the best Philippine company for strategy and management by Asiamoney, as well as the best managed company in the Philippines by the UK-based Euromoney magazine.

SYKES ASIA, INC.
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U-BIX Corporation is the Philippines' leading office systems and services provider and is among the Philippine Top 500 Corporations. Our objective is to provide a "one-stop" shop option t anyone who needs office equipment, furniture, and office-related products and services. From the customers' perspective, they have the convenience of being able to rely on one company with a proven track record of high quality and excellent service to cater to all their office needs, whether for office equipment or facility-maintenance services. From the company's perspective, our strength is being able to know what our customers need and deliver these products and services to their full and complete satisfaction.

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VXI began operating as a provider of outsourced customer contact services in the ethnic, in-language market segment. While we continue to be unique in our service of all ethnic market segments, our mainstream English speaking serve dominates our total project portfolio today. At XVI, we continually work to grow the scale and scope of our business. Since our founding, we have fielded millions of customer interactions in many languages of projects for both large multi-nationals and small local clients.

Named as the fastest growing outsourcer in the US (Rising Star rankings) with over 200 seats and 5 centers around the globe. VXI operates world class contact centers in the US, Philippines and China. Our integrated Inbound and Outbound contact centers supports Customer Service, Sales and Email solutions for our blue chip clients.

Our commitment and responsiveness to our clients and their, customers set VXI apart. VXI's world class contact centers are staffed wit quality people using superior processes, supported by leading-edge technology and are devoted to competitive pricing.

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Management Dev't. the AMA Way **Mr. Jean Francois Jadin** American Mgt. Assn.	*CISCO Certification: The PLDT Approach* **Mr. Jun Manlapaz** PLDT	*Employability as an HRD Philosophy* **Dr. Juan Amor Palafox** UP SOLAIR	*Taking Charge of Your Future* **Mr. Francis Kong** Funworkz
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For more information on the convention, pls. call 890-2823 or for on-line registration, visit:
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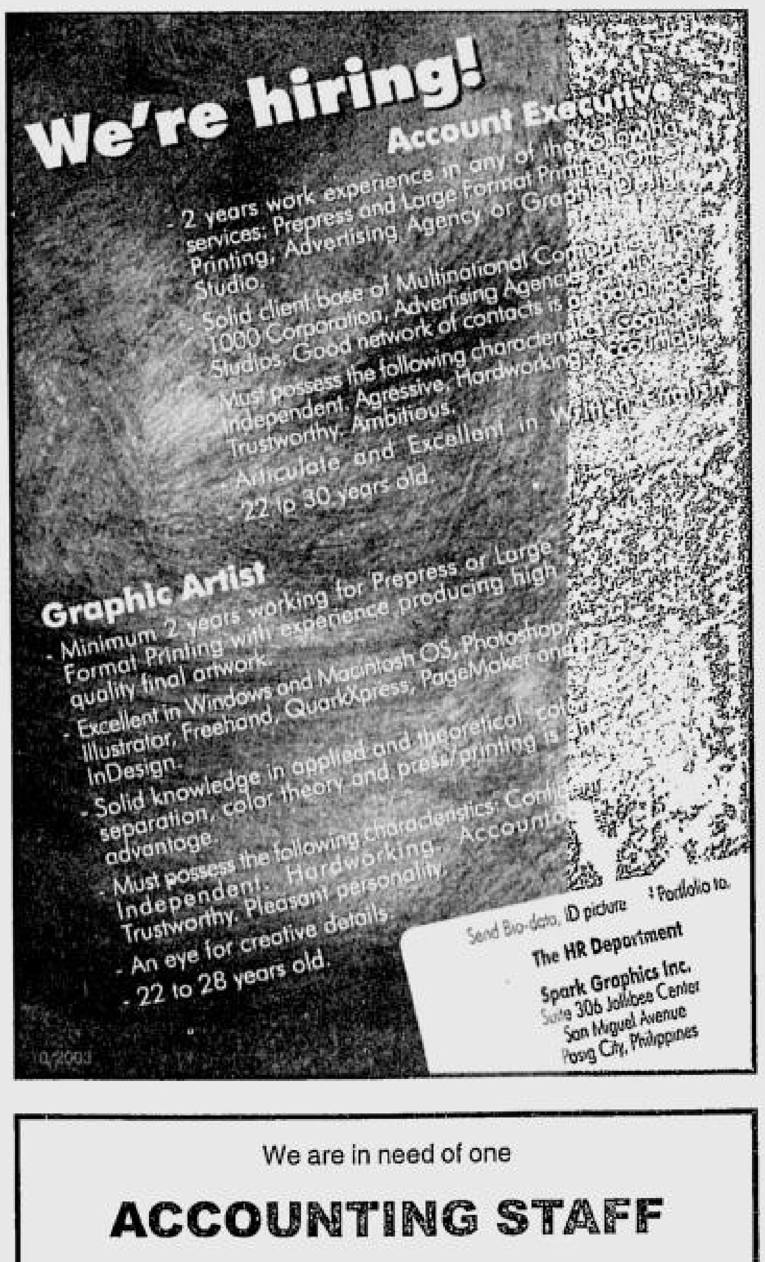
We're hiring!

Account Executive
- 2 years work experience in any of the [illegible] services: Prepress and Large Format Printing, [illegible] Printing, Advertising Agency or Graphic [illegible] Studio.
- Solid client base of Multinational Com[illegible] 1000 Corporation, Advertising Agencies [illegible] Studios. Good network of contacts is a [illegible]
- Must possess the following characteristics: Independent, Agressive, Hardworking, Trustworthy, Ambitious.
- Articulate and Excellent in [illegible]
- 22 to 30 years old.

Graphic Artist
- Minimum 2 years working for Prepress or Large Format Printing with experience producing high quality final artwork.
- Excellent in Windows and Macintosh OS, Photoshop, Illustrator, Freehand, QuarkXpress, PageMaker and InDesign.
- Solid knowledge in applied and theoretical col[illegible] separation, color theory and press/printing is [illegible] advantage.
- Must possess the following characteristics: Confi[illegible] Independent, Hardworking, Accounta[illegible] Trustworthy, Pleasant personality.
- An eye for creative details.
- 22 to 28 years old.

Send Bio-data, ID picture & Portfolio to:
The HR Department
Spark Graphics Inc.
Suite 306 Jollibee Center
San Miguel Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines

We are in need of one

ACCOUNTING STAFF

Qualifications:
- Accounting Graduate
- Male or Female
- Not more than 27 years old
- Computer literate
- Hardworking
- With at least one year experience

Please mail your application letter and resumé with 2x2 picture and reference to:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
COUNTRY BANKERS LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION
Country Bankers Centre
658 Kalaw Avenue, Ermita, Manila

How do you make the most out of your first 60 days on the job?

DEAR WW: I just got a great job at a company I really want to work for. Unfortunately, I feel a little over my head and I'm afraid I might not make it past the probationary period. What can I do to convince them that I'm a keeper?

A Good Risk

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

Rule #1: Hit the ground running! Take it from Leroy Antoine. Antoine, thanks to his ability to move quickly, managed to rob seven houses in Trinidad without getting nabbed. But he blew his record on the eighth one: the homeowner found him sleeping in the kitchen, his loot bag resting against the leg of his chair.

So—let that be a lesson to you. It's not enough to get inside: you've got to keep moving once you get there. The following strategies will help you make your mark from your earliest days on the job. You'll find more in Bob Nelson's book, "1001 Ways to Take Initiative" (Workman, 1999).

Strategies

First 14 days: get to know four new people. "You just didn't fit in" is probably the top reason that new employees don't make it through probation. Avoid that pitfall by using coffee breaks and lunches to get to know your coworkers. Find out about them as people, how they ended up in their current position and what tricks of the trade they'd suggest for thriving at work.

First 30 days: how are you doing? Ed Koch, former mayor of New York City, was famous for asking, "How am I doing?" You should do the same. Don't assume your boss is going to stop by to let you know. Take the initiative. Ask where your performance is strong and where you need improvement.

First 45 days: review your job description. Jobs often deviate from their written descriptions. But employees get evaluated based on their job descriptions. So protect yourself: after 45 days, talk to your boss about how you really spend your time. Decide together if the description should change, or if you should refocus your efforts.

Final stretch

First 60 days: make a splash. Over your first three months look for an area where you can make a significant contribution. Perhaps there's a situation that people chronically complain about, or a potential problem that's being overlooked, or perhaps there's some bit of strategy or organizational savvy you can apply that you learned in a past job. Find something you can add that will put you on the big guys' radar. Some people try to do this in the first couple of weeks, but it's often wiser to wait a bit longer so you can do something more substantial.

Next 60 days: reboot. Evaluate your first sixty days, talk to your boss and coworkers and identify new areas for improvement.

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Instead of breaking and entering, Antoine entered and broke down. If you follow these tips, you won't make the same mistake.

Poll results

Here are the results of our last workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com poll: What is your strategy for the first sixty days in a new job?

—Rock the boat, 7.3%
—Don't make waves, 43.5%
—Make small waves, 49.1%

Our winning strategy for the first sixty days of a new job comes from Beth S. in cyberspace. "There are two factors to consider when starting a new job, first, your predecessor. How did the job open up in the first place?

If the person was fired/ laid off, why? If he/she was transferred, was it a promotion or was the move against the employee's (or the boss's) wishes? Has there been a high degree of turnover (are you the fifth secretary in a year?) and if so, for what reason? This last one isn't always bad news, depending on the reasons. Second, is the department you'll be joining, how much turnover is there within the group as a whole? Has everyone else been working together for fifteen years with no major personnel changes? Also, how closely knit is the department? Do they interact with other groups within the company or are they more or less their own little enclosed entity?"

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@working wounded .com.*)*

The meaning of work

PEOPLE at Work and the Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development (Ateneo CORD) partner to listen to the heartbeats of working people through this People at Work Pulse survey.

PEOPLE AT WORK

Winners from last month's survey are: Rowena Estrella and Mario Molave. Please get your gift packages from Inquirer; call Mariciris at 897-8808 local 554.

1. What does "working" mean to you? (Rank 1 to 7, 1 is the first choice)
   a. An opportunity for developing my skills and talents
   b. A place to be with friends and meet new ones
   c. A source of income for my family's needs
   d. A way to express myself and show what I know
   e. A means to be of service to others.
   f. A way to support my lifestyle
   g. A source of pride and self-respect

2. Working also means... (Choose 3 and rank)
   a. Going to office everyday
   b. Being part of an organization
   c. Doing anything as long as it pays
   d. Running my own business
   e. Using my talents and skills
   f. Doing something to fill my time
   g. Applying what I learned in school

3. What words do you associate with working? (Choose 3 and rank)
   a. Necessity
   b. Fun/Joy
   c. Difficult
   d. Serious
   e. Growth
   f. Challenge
   g. Fulfillment

4. Please answer items **a** to **d** with: a. strongly disagree, b. disagree, c. neutral, d. agree, e. strongly disagree:
   a. The work that I do now gives my life meaning.
   b. Earning a living and doing what you really want to do are incompatible.
   c. My work gives me my identity
   d. Working is only an 8-hour job

5. Please describe your current job level
   a. Staff/manual work
   b. Professional/technical/sales
   c. Supervisor
   d. Managerial
   e. Business owner

6. Age _______

7. Gender: M or F

8. Civil Status: Single, Married, Separated

9. Organization you work with now:
   a. Business
   b. Non-profit
   c. School
   d. Government

Name: ____________________________
Company Name: ____________________________
Industry: ________________Tel/Mobile/Email: ____________

Mail or fax this form with your answers to:
People at Work Pulse
Ateneo Center for Organization Research & Development
2nd Flr Hoffner Bldg., Social Development Complex
Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City.
Fax No. (632) 426-6065; Email: **ateneocord@admu.edu.ph**

Or email or text answers to (0920)831-9522. Write: topic 1.(answer), 2.(answer), etc. name, position, company, address, contact numbers or email address.

'Should I accept ...'

From page K26

a "demotion," it may be because your concept of a career is linear. In my experience, careers can be cyclical. I believe there is a design of love of God that allows you to go for certain periods to work in a given direction, then, He gives you a period of rest or cocooning as you are doing now. Afterwards, He opens up new creative undertakings that are equally or even more fulfilling and pleasurable. I suggest you follow the inspiration of the Spirit within you. As to what people will say, what is more important than human respect is divine respect and being authentic to your self.

I remember reading about Anne Rubinstein, who was once asked by an ardent admirer how she handles the notes as well as she does. The pianist answered, "I handle the notes no better than many others, but the pauses— Ah! That is where the art resides." So cherish this brief pause in terms of your work life, it can be very enriching and memorable.

In the corporate world, titles matter a lot. But they are not essential for our personal and spiritual well-being. Titles do not a man or woman make. The great tragedy of many people today is pursuing the rat race in the insatiable desire for a better title. Worse, they think their title is their essence, so when they lose it, they become devastated. In truth, we already possess the best title of all—child of God, created in his image and likeness, and everything else is "vanity of vanities."

Let me share with you my experience. Thirteen years ago, I left corporate life as vice president of a bank to take up my master's degree and at the same time, have my fourth baby. It was a wonderful period when I took time out from work to nurse my baby and learn the theories to confirm my managerial experiences. It was also a creative time of endless possibilities. It was a time for reflection and spiritual growth. I taught at the Asian Institute of Management for a while. Then I set up Ancilla, the consulting company that I manage now. At first, I had the same thoughts about my children missing out on frills like country clubs and other perks. But looking back, they are better off, growing street-smart with solid values and a great sensitivity for the poor.

I encourage you to take on the government job. Pursue it with passion because serving government is not just a profession, but in my mind a vocation as well. God bless you.

(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send feedback through email to advice@ ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*

CPI
OUTSOURCING

CPI Outsourcing is a reliable strategic partner to many companies that choose outsourcing as a strategic move to complement existing business strategies.

We are inviting candidates to be part of a dynamic team who believe in customer service, excellence and commitment. We offer excellent training opportunities, a chance to work in a fast-paced environment whose quality management systems are aligned to ISO 9001.

ACCOUNT OFFICERS

We are looking for aggressive individuals who are profit and goal oriented sharpened with a keen sense for business opportunities. Candidates must be graduates of any business or I/T course from a reputable school or university. Candidates should also have excellent product presentation and writing skills. Excellent incentive packages await the qualified candidates.

OPERATIONS STAFF

If you believe you have a keen sense for details, able to adhere to quality management systems and work together with some of the best companies in the industry, then this position is for you! Candidates should be graduates, fresh or otherwise, of any business course from any reputable college or university.

If you are a Manila based applicant, send your resumé in MS Word format through this e-mail address:

payroll@skyinet.net

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2nd Floor MWSS Engineering Building, Katipunan Road,
Balara, Quezon City
Telefax Nos. 926-5233; 926-5234

JOB OPENING

ONE (1) ACCOUNTANT III (SG-18) – CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, AT LEAST TWO YEARS WORK EXPERIENCE PREFERABLY IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

ONE (1) PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER III (SG-18) – GRADUATE OF MASS COMMUNICATION, JOURNALISM OR ANY RELATED COURSE WITH AT LEAST TWO YEARS WORK EXPERIENCE AS WRITER OR INFORMATION RESEARCHER.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS --GRADUATE OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE OR ARCHITECTURE WITH AT LEAST TWO YEARS RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE. APPLICANTS WITH SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE IN SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, CONCEPTUAL AND DETAILED DESIGN, COST ESTIMATION, BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF LINEAR PARKS AND SITES AND SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN BLIGHTED AREAS WILL BE PREFERRED.

Interested applicants must submit their application on or before October 31, 2003 at the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC), 2nd floor MWSS Engineering Building, Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City.

JOB OPENINGS

ACCOUNTANTS – B.S. Accounting Graduates preferably CPA with experience in any of the following: General Accounting, Preparing of Financial Statements, Financial Analysis, Auditing and Controllership. Computer Literate (EXCEL, SPREADSHEET, LOTUS in WINDOWS ETC). Customer and result-oriented.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE / COUNTER SALES ASSISTANTS – Graduates of any 4-year course. With pleasing personality and excellent verbal and written communication skills. Warm and accommodating, enjoy interacting with different types of people, patient, good listener and can handle all concerns related to customer service. Must be computer literate.

FRONT DESK CLERK / RECEPTIONISTS – Graduates of any 4-year course. Shall operate switchboard/PABX, process incoming calls and place calls as required. Must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Mature and with pleasant attitude.

CALL CENTER AGENTS – Graduates of medical or IT courses, excellent in verbal and written communication skills, willing to be assigned in shifting schedules, customer-oriented.

ACCOUNT / SALES EXECUTIVES – Graduates of reputable schools, have sales experience, willing to do field works, customer and goal-oriented, with pleasing personality and excellent verbal and written communication skills.

FRESH GRADUATES OF OTHER COURSES ARE ALSO WELCOME TO APPLY!

Due to Urgency, we encourage all applicants to handcarry their resumé, 2x2 pictures, photocopy of diploma or transcript of record to the address below:

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(A Division of Searchers and Staffers Corp.)

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#39 POLARIS ST., BEL-AIR, MAKATI CITY
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E-mail Address:
sltemps@info.com.ph
Visit our web site at: www.slsearch.com

HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL
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is in need of a **PHYSIOTHERAPIST** with the following qualifications:

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- Good oral and written communication and training skills
- Responsible, well-organized and can work with less supervision
- Preferably with experience in an NGO

THIS POSITION IS FOR HIRING IN THE MIDDLE OF NOVEMBER 2003

Please send your resumé and/or CV through post mail or e-mail to:

HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL
Maria Lorna N. Cusi
42 Ponce Street San Lorenzo Village, 1223 Makati City
E-mail: hlphil03@yahoo.com

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POEA – 047-LB-082503-PL
Aguinaldo Building, 1522 Sta. Teresita Street
Villa Donata Subdivision, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
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Cellphone No. 0920-2323093
Email: medicalstaffingresources2002@yahoo.com

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3. College diploma
4. PRC license
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6. Passport size picture
7. CGFNS/TOEFL/TSE/IELTS certificates

CGFNS CERTIFICATE PREFERRED – NOT MANDATORY

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- With substantial knowledge in LET, CPA Board, Civil Service Exam, Engineering Board Exams, Nursing Board Exam, or other professional board exams
- With experience as board exam reviewer
- Fluent in written and oral English
- Highly personable

ACCOUNTANT
- With at least 2 years experience in accounting

MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS
- With at least 3 years working experience
- With excellent organizational, communication, and human relation skills
- With excellent customer service orientation

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER
- Fluent in oral Spanish, French, German, Japanese, Mandarin, or other foreign languages
- Communicates well in English
- With substantial language teaching experience
- Highly personable

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXECUTIVES
- With excellent communication skills
- With quality service orientation

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- To develop testing materials on Math, Science, Language, Reading, General Info, and Accounting
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- Part/full-time
- Will lecture on Math or Science or Language or Reading or General Info
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- Honor graduates or teachers of UP, Ateneo, La Salle, any course; or Bar or board topnotchers; or Law or medicine graduates and students

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Aboitiz Transport Group has been bridging the islands of the Philippine archipelago since the 1920's. Today, it is the single largest and most efficient integrated Transportation Company in the country. We are the holding company of the transport investments of the Aboitiz Groups. The single largest integrated transportation company in the Philippines. An ACO and AEV investment.

Aboitiz One - the domestic and international air, sea and land delivery & logistics service company of the Aboitiz Group. Products and services include Quikbox/Quikpac/ D&S & Aboitiz Express.

WG&A, Inc. - the largest passenger, transport and cargo shipping company in the Philippines holds the distinction of having a fleet with International Ship Management (ISM) certification. One of the country's Best Employer's, ranked 6th in the top 10 list.

Philippine Fast Ferry Corporation - the largest fast-craft (catamaran) operator in the Philippines serving primary routes using ISM-certified accredited vessels.

Aboitiz Jebsen Bulk Transport Corporation - a joint venture between Aboitiz Group and the Jebsen Group of Norway. A fully integrated shipping company with activities found in most European companies that venture in technical management/ship owning, management, marketing and chartering, agency and crewing.

ADD FORCE

ADD Force was established in 1986 in response to the growing number of individuals who are seeking suitable and gainful employment and company's needs to hire the right people for their organization. Our primary objectives are to lead more people to more opportunities, and to efficiently address the staffing and employment concerns of our clients and candidates through customized recruitment strategies. ADD's increased efforts to develop client connections and match applicants with more prospects have been widely recognized, identifying us as one of the leading human resource consultants and provider in the country.

ALL ASIA CUSTOMER SERVICES

All Asia Customer Services, Inc. (ACS) is a provider of outsourced Customer Relationship Management services and solutions. Its multi-channel contact centers provide 24/7 telephone and Internet-based technical help desk, customer service and product support. In every phase of the sales cycle, from customer acquisition through retention, ACS helps companies manage effective communications with their customers enhancing loyalty and customer lifetime value.

ACS is focused on contact center growth opportunities in both the local and offshore outsource markets. Established in 1997, it has been managing the inbound and outbound teleservices and web-enabled contact center requirements of companies from the telecommunications, finance, satellite broadcasting, technology and manufacturing industries – all of whom are major players, if not industry leaders, in the Philippine and U.S. markets.

AMA GROUP OF COMPANIES

AMA Computer University is undoubtedly the first and largest ICT University in Asia with an annual student population of 150,000 and more than 200 campuses in the Philippines and other parts of the world.

As the pioneer of computer education in the Philippines, it was the first to offer courses in Computer Science and Computer Engineering, the first to offer e-Learning, the first to provide one-to-one student-to-computer ratio, the first computer university to offer Mechatronics, the first Premier Education Partner of Microsoft, the first and exclusive training partner of Avaya, and the first to branch out to key cities and municipalities in the Philippines and other parts of the world.

To date, only AMA has developed on-line learning in the Philippines. It is also the first school in the country that is developing a University town comparable to Harvard, MIT and other prestigious academic institutions in the world. Its founder, Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V, also committed to establish a hospital and a medical school in honor of his mother Ester R. Aguiluz.

Since its establishment in 1980, AMA has graduated more than 160,000 students who are now gainfully employed in top IT companies all over the world, a development that made a name for the Philippines as the leading provider of competent computer manpower in Asia.

AMBERGRIS SOLUTIONS

Ambergris Solutions is a leading Philippine-based provider of offshore customer care solutions to US-based clients in the utilities, IT, and telecommunications. By locating its contact centers in the Philippines, and leveraging massive investments in new broadband infrastructure, Ambergris allows its clients to staff customer care desks with highly-trained, university-educated customer interaction professionals, for a fraction of the price of operating in-house help desks, or of outsourcing to stateside services bureaus.

The Ambergris revolution begins with a cadre of passionate, committed and thoughtful customer interaction agents (CIA's), who take the work of caring for customers seriously, and who vie to make every customer interaction a source of measurable competitive advantage for the companies Ambergris serves.

ASIA PARTNERSHIP PHILIPPINES, INC.

ASIA Partnership Philippines, Inc. (APPI) is an international recruitment training and consultancy firm. It was established in 1994 as part of the ASIA Partnership Group with headquarters in Sydney, Australia. In 2001, ASIA Call Center Link (ACCL), a division of APPI, was established with a vision to service the emerging call center industry in the Philippines.

APPI offers 4 services that will enable our clients to build a strategy that identifies the capabilities that it wants, the best human resources, and the most appropriate business model. These are namely, Executive Search, ASIA Call Center Link, Training and Business Process Outsourcing.

BANCO DE ORO

BANCO de Oro (BDO) is among the industry's fastest growing banks. In 2001, BDO ranked among the top five banks in terms of growth in total resources, total deposits and total loans among the 44 commercial banks in the industry. The Bank is also slowly gaining its share in the trade business, structured lending, cash management and investment banking services. As of December 17, 2002, Banco de Oro ranked 10th in resources and 9th in capital among the 42 commercial banks in the industry.

Today, Banco de Oro has three wholly-owned subsidiaries: BDO Capital & Investment Corporation, BDO Financial Services, Inc., BDO Insurance Brokers, Inc. and two other allied undertakings: Generali Pilipinas Holding Company, Inc. and SM Keppel Land, Inc.

CHOWKING FOOD CORPORATION

THE Chowking Food Corporation gained entrance to the Philippines' highly competitive fast food industry in 1985, at a time when it was dominated by western-style burger joints.

It positioned itself in a niche where it could be a strong leader, by adopting the best features of two distinct restaurant personalities – on the one hand, the traditional Chinese restaurant, with its menu of delectable, sumptuous but easy to prepare and reasonably-priced dishes; on the other, the modern, western-style fastfood joint with its eye-catching façade, bright interiors and young staff dispensing friendly and snappy service – and fused them into a unique concept: the Oriental quick-service restaurant.

Emboldened by its success on the domestic front, the company ventured into the global market in 1995, with the opening of a Chowking store in California, USA. Today, Chowking outlets are operating in the US West Coast under a licensing agreement with a Filipino expatriate family. A similar agreement has been forged with a Dubai national for the operation of Chowking stores in the Middle East.

The turn of the millenium was a turning point for Chowking Food Corporation. On January 1, 2000 Chowking became a wholly owned subsidiary of Jollibee Foods Corporation, the largest, most respected restaurant chain in the Philippines.

CINDERELLA MARKETING CORPORATION

IN 1948, Cinderella Dresses, Inc. was established with children's clothes as its main line. It later pushed deeper into the fashion scene offering apparel not just for children but for men and ladies as well. In time, its marketing arm, Cinderella Marketing Corporation followed. Today, with almost 60 stores and affiliate stores nationwide, Cinderella has played and continues to play a major role in the country's fashion history. It has maintained its position as the country's arbiter of style, and it continues to respond to and set local fashion trends.

Cinderella's company logo and icon – the red "c" – is today recognized everywhere. Interestingly enough, the "c" could very well stand for the outstanding "creativity" Cinderella consistently brings to all its areas of operation, from design, to marketing, to retailing, to its genuine commitment to the community.

CONTACT WORLD

CONTACT World introduces a new concept in teleservices and call center application. By taking advantage of time zone differences, bulk international call rates, cutting edge technology and a skilled local workforce, Contact World offers your organization a more profitable way to connect with your customers.

Located in Manila, Contact World provides a comprehensive range of call center services for businesses operating anywhere in the world. With its central Asian location, the Philippines makes an ideal global hub for call center services. Because of time zone differences, the benefits apply to North American and European regions, as well as Australian and Asian businesses.

EPIKSTAR

EPIKSTAR surpassing the ordinary in scope: an entity whose leadership role is superior.

Epixtar Corp. is a provider of marketing services – aggregating international contact center capacity to deliver comprehensive, turnkey solutions. Epixtar delivers value-driven creative solutions for telesales initiatives. Leading companies use Epixtar's marketing expertise and contact center capacity to acquire, support, and enhance the customer experience, reduce costs and generate top-line revenue. Based in Miami, Florida, Epixtar conducts operations throughout the Caribbean Basin, India and the Philippines.

ETELECARE INTERNATIONAL, INC.

ETELECARE International Inc. is one of the forerunners of the Philippine Call Center Industry providing superior customer service to companies in the U.S. by integrating quality people, best practice management processes and state of the art telecommunications and contact center technology. Our vision is to be the leader in the U.S. outsourced customer contact center industry by providing superior value to our customers, employees, and shareholders.

The first 300-seat contact center, established in February 2000, is located at Citibank Square Eastwood Cyberpark in Libis, Quezon City a new technology park in an economic development zone. The second call center was recently opened last October 7, 2002 at Ayala Avenue's PBCOM Tower occupying three floors and housing the Corporate Headquarters for Philippine Operations. Within the next 5 years, eTelecare will be building three more Contact Centers in various parts of the Philippines with 1,000 employees per Contact Center.

EVT GROUP OF COMPANIES

INCORPORATED in 1995, EVT Group is a joint venture of a local Chinese-Filipino and foreign investors. EVT has since established itself as one of the country's leading providers of high quality home building materials such as ceramic and granite tiles aluminum windows and doors, and metal framing products for the home-building industry. It boasts an edge of offering a wide range of superior quality and affordable product line, great accessibility and strong delivery system.

Excellence in service of the company is intensified with more than 10,000 square meters of warehouses nationwide which insures an extensive product choices as well as availability of ample stock for immediate delivery.

EO – EXECUTIVE OPTICAL

A LEADER in today's vision care industry in the Philippines and with more than 20 branches in key major cities nationwide Executive Optical (EO) was founded in 1968 with its very first clinic in Cataluña, Manila, Philippines.

Executive Optical's (EO) founding optometrist believed in the simple concept of providing excellent personal and professional care for its patients.

The success of Executive Optical (EO) is the result of a tradition of leadership with the optical or vision care industry in areas such as reliable eyecare services product variety, value pricing, and service excellence.

FEP PRINTING CORPORATION

FEP Printing Corporation was established in March 1993 as a joint venture of the major stockholders of the Philippine Daily Inquirer newspaper. The stockholders were represented by the Far East Media, Inc. (for PDI Founder Eggie Apostol's group), Excel Equities Inc. (for the then-PDI President Ben Pangilinan's group) and the Pinnacle Printers Corporation (for the Rufino-Prieto family group). The initials of the three corporations spelled out FEP.

The following year, printing facilities were moved from the Port Area to the new printing site on Mascardo St., Makati City. By October, a total of three printing lines were operational.

The managers of FEP realized early that there would be a need to increase printing capacity and quality, both in terms of color and pages. As a result, FEP has consistently expanded and improved facilities over the past years to become the largest newspaper printer in the Philippines today.

FLUOR DANIEL, INC. – PHILIPPINES

SERVICE organization with worldwide involvement in engineering and construction related products. With over 300 engineers covering the fields of Civil, Structural, Architectural, Process, Mechanical, Electrical, Control Systems, Procurement and Project Managers.

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ICT GROUP

ICT Group is a leading globally integrated supplier of customer relationship management (CRM) solutions. We provide a comprehensive suite of sales, service and marketing solutions designed to help clients identify, acquire, retain, service, measure and maximize the lifetime value of their customer relationships.

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INFLUENT'S success can be linked to one thing – our employees. We're a company of very special people who think at a senior level and are driven to win. Of course, we offer the services that you expect: flexible solutions based on proven processes proven by scalable technology platforms. But more importantly, we talk to you in the language you know best: The language of your business.

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MAX'S RESTAURANT

MAX'S Restaurant is the leading restaurant that has kept the legendary "Sagad to the Bones" Max's fried chicken for over 58 years now.

Over the years, Max's has expanded throughout the Philippines and California. Looking towards the next millenium, Max's Restaurant has established itself as a household name, an institution, and a proud Filipino tradition. The second and third generations of the family continue to zealously uphold the standards and traditions set by Maximo and Ruby for all Max's Restaurants. Today there are four groups of Max's: Max's Ermita Group, Max's Makati Group, Max's Quezon City Group and Max's Franchising Group, which started n 1998.

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PEOPLESUPPORT is a leading international contact center that provides superior customer service via phone, chat, email and fax 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Its Corporate Headquarters is in Los Angeles, with Operations Centers strategically located in the Makati Central Business District, and in Cebu City.

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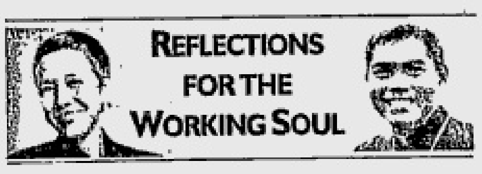
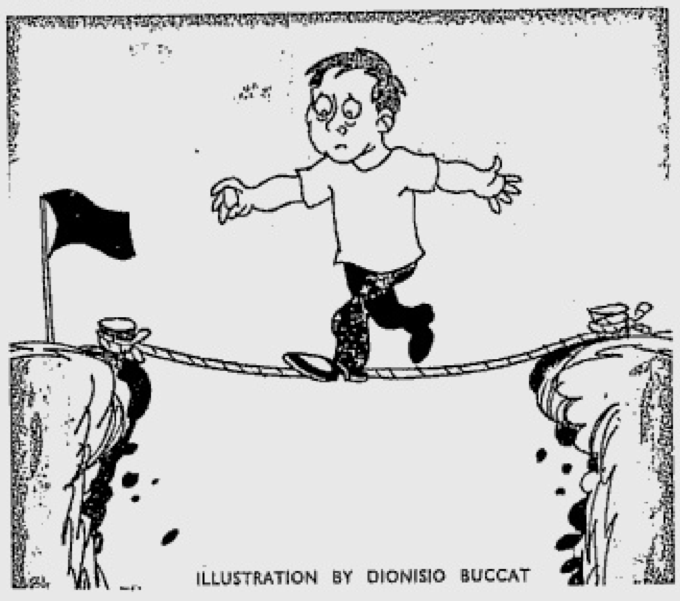


REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Gospel Mk 10: 46-52

"Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, 'Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.'"



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Goal setting

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

AT skills upgrading seminars we are taught goal setting. To achieve our goals we are told to visualize, to "see" the end result as we want it. To make that vision a reality, experts say we need to plan a route which we must be determined to stick to till the end. We are warned that we will meet hindrances but we must be single-minded about our pursuit and hurdle all obstacles coming our way. Furthermore, we ought to know ourselves, size up our limitations as well as assets, and use everything within our power to go after our goal. Most importantly, we must believe that we will overcome, and finally attain our goal.

The blind Bartimaeus in today's gospel achieved his goal—to be rid of his blindness. We will take the liberty to assume that he had so desired to see with his eyes that he refused to remain blind all his life. Thus he "saw" himself seeing. It was crucial that despite his blindness, Bartimaeus knew himself: because he was but a beggar, he knew that his only route to his goal was someone who would heal him for free. He had heard of Jesus, so that on that day He passed by, Bartimaeus grabbed the opportunity and shouted to be healed. There were obstacles—the disciples who rebuked him for making so much noise—but he was undaunted. He was single-minded about his goal, knew his limitations, and used everything within his power to go after his goal: being blind and virtually immobile, he was nearly helpless—but he used his hearing to sense the crowd's direction to "follow" Jesus, and he shouted at the top of his lungs repeatedly to catch His attention. Never doubting that Jesus had the power to heal him, Bartimaeus believed he would attain his goal to be cured of his blindness.. The rest is history for us Christians to hear over and over again, and be inspired by. And to think that Bartimaeus never attended a single goal-setting seminar! *(Email the author at* avemaria@csi.com.ph*)*

Maui and Bartimaeus

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

I REMEMBER vividly what I saw more than ten years ago, a man with a probing stick climbed up the stairs to the fourth floor, groped through the corridor, and knocked on the door of a room. Maui, a blind masseur, entered the room and massaged a priest. I later on gave him my room number and the next day I, too, enjoyed a very relaxing massage. I admired how he carried on with his work as a normal person would, having overcome his lack of sight with a bright "vision" of his work and life.

Many workers on the other hand, while enjoying the gift of all the senses, seem to lack the sense of humble acceptance of human imperfections. Instead of admitting humbly a mistake in the work, many would cover up or even explain away the error. The fear of losing one's job or receiving a sanction "blinds" the worker and prevents him from learning to become a mature human person. The lack of an understanding attitude of those in management and their unreasonable bias for profit over that of the workers' welfare are additional blocks that prevent the work place from developing the personality growth of everyone. For the workplace to be conducive to growth of both people and the business, both labor and management should feel the need to "see."

Bartimaeus, the blind man in today's gospel, felt a desperate need to see, and he "saw" the power of Jesus of Nazareth. Like Maui and Bartimaeus, the worker should not give in to feelings of fear and shame or give in "to the rebuke of the crowd around him", but "hearing" and believing in Jesus, he should cry out continually, "Jesus, have pity on me!" He cried, Jesus heard, and his sight was restored. Do companies and businesses provide such healing environment for the workers? *(Email the author at* mfv@skyinet.net*)*

How to survive ...

From page K26

zations help downsized employees?" Forty-nine percent (49%) of the respondents ranked communication with employees as the best way to help them manage downsizing while eighteen percent (18%) ranked giving a separation package as the best. Another eighteen percent (18%) singled out career planning. On the other hand, thirteen percent (13%) of the respondents ranked outplacement services as the best way to cope. Only two percent (2%) cited providing seminars/workshops to provide new skills.

Employees share

Although downsizing is often a last resort strategy, it is not uncommon to find that employees have different perceptions on its necessity. Some employees will contend that they would have been willing to help the organization survive, if only to prevent a downsizing.

Readers were asked as to what they would be willing to do as employees to help prevent downsizing. Thirty-six percent (36%) of the respondents said that reducing work hours could help prevent downsizing. Thirty-one percent (31%) are willing to freeze their salary increases and bonuses while eighteen percent (18%) are willing to decrease their benefits. Thirteen percent (13%) are willing to work longer hours with no overtime pay and only two percent (2%) are willing to take a pay cut.

Managing downsizing

The results of the short survey suggest there are ways to manage downsizing better.

Surprisingly, more than a separation package, communication was the most cited coping tool for downsizing. This means giving employees a clear picture of why, how and when the downsizing will take effect.

The company grapevine often works overtime in an organization when there are rumors of downsizing. The uncertainty just makes people unproductive because much of their time and energy is spent on guessing who will be involved.

Preparation need

Other organizations that are scared of employee sabotage, simple choose to surprise employees by giving them the "pink slip" on the day itself. Often, this is the most traumatic experience of all as employees really feel as if the rug has been pulled from under them. What the results suggest is that, other than the financial preparation and outplacement assistance, it is just as vital that people are psychologically prepared for a downsizing.

It is also important for organizations to provide support to downsized employees. Some companies, for example, provide counseling and career planning services for their downsized employees. Others also offer outplacement services to help employees find new jobs.

The results also suggest that before implementing downsizing, it is important to ensure that all other options have been explored. Asking the employees themselves of suggestions is a good place to start. Employers may be pleasantly surprised at what their workers may be willing to sacrifice to avoid downsizing.

Taking care of survivors

On the other hand, it's also important to take care of those who survived the downsizing. People who are retained in the organization may have the same feelings as those who were downsized. It is important that their feelings also be attended to. Some organizations, for example, hold debriefing sessions after downsizing to help survivors cope with the pain of the past and anxiety for the future.

Organizations need to ensure that the morale of the organization does not deteriorate following a downsizing. This may involve instilling a "can do" attitude regarding changes that need to be made.

Organizations also need to develop a vision of the future that draws people so they will not be tempted to just jump ship. This implies that leadership is very important during downsizing. Certainly some things need to be pushed, but during the traumatic transition period, it's important that leaders don't focus too much on efficiency, mistakes or poor attitudes. Instead, they must spend their efforts in coaching and encouraging people to be successful in bridging the gap between the old and new.

(Email feedback to ateneocord@admu.edu.ph.*)*

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- Willing to be assigned in Imus, Cavite

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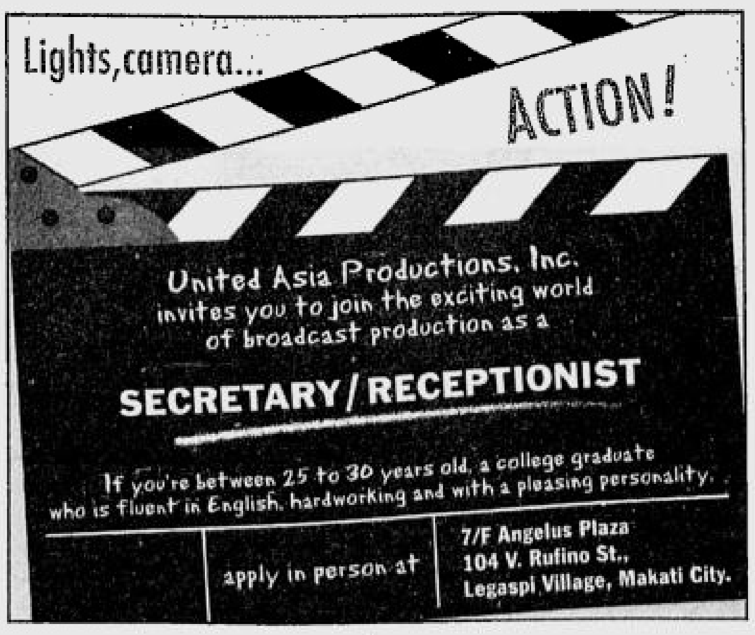

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Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

PEOPLE AT WORK PULSE

How to survive downsizing

By Regina Hechanova and Alfred A. Presbitero, Jr.
Ateneo Center for Organization Research & Development (Ateneo CORD)

DOWNSIZING – the very term strikes fear in the heart of many employees. In today's highly competitive world, more and more organizations have resorted to downsizing as a means of becoming more competitive. For other organizations, downsizing is the last resort to ensure survival.

Downsizing, or "rightsizing" as some companies call it, is implemented in many ways. Some companies first identify what their core business is and then, downsize employees in non-core functions, outsourcing their jobs to outside contractors or agencies. In other companies, downsizing is made in many parts of the organization. Typically, the goal is to reduce manpower by making each unit as lean as possible. Another type of downsizing occurs when a particular unit is shut down because it is not profitable. Company mergers or acquisitions also sometimes create redundant groups.

Survey

To tackle the issue of downsizing, People at Work Pulse posed the following questions to readers last month: 1) How likely is it that your company will downsize? 2) Why do you think organizations downsize? 3) How can organizations help employees who are downsized? 4) What would you be willing to do to help prevent downsizing?

A total of 39 responded to the survey. Seventy-eight (78%) of the total respondents are from the business sector. Fourteen percent (14%) are from the academe and eight percent (8%) are from government.

Majority of the respondents (50%) reported that there might be downsizing in their organization in the future. On the other hand, twenty-five percent (25%) reported that their organization is currently/ has already downsized.

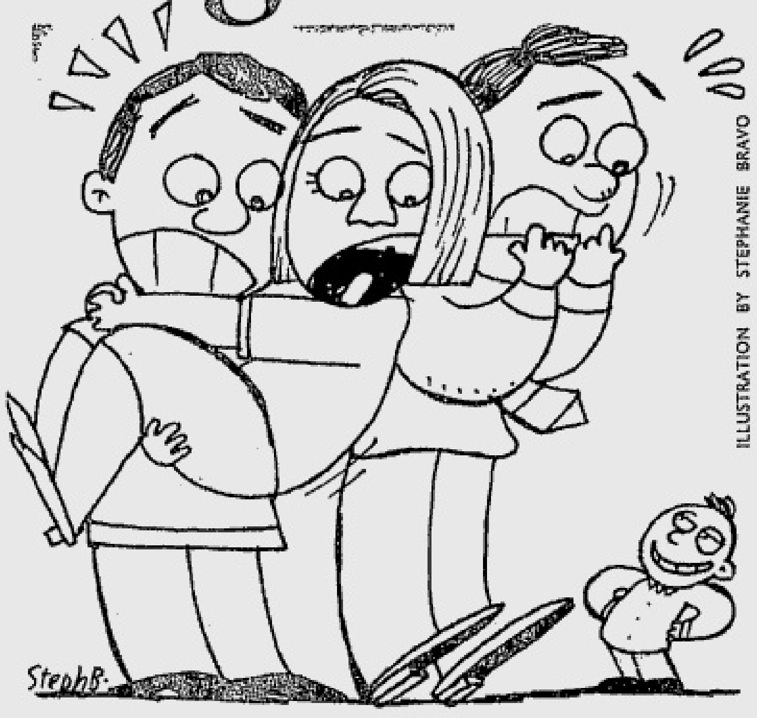
Poor economy (36%) is cited as the main reason for downsizing according to the polls. This is followed by mergers and acquisitions (23%) and change in business strategy (21%). Fifteen percent (15%) attribute downsizing to poor management and only five percent (5%) attribute it to labor problems.

Employers' assistance

Whatever the reason, laying people off can be a traumatic experience for both the employees and the organization. There is a sense of grief and despair that comes when one's livelihood and career are taken away. Even for those who "survive," downsizing leaves a sense of personal loss from seeing friends leave. It is also not unusual for the remaining employees to feel a sense of insecurity, anxious that they might be next.

Given this situation, readers were asked, "How can organi-

'HOW TO SURVIVE/K24



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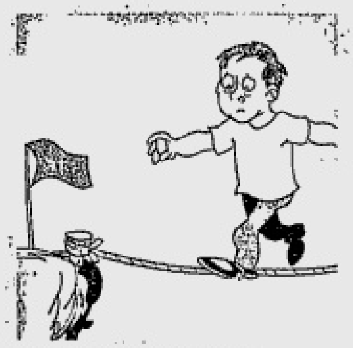
What's inside



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Working Wounded by Bob Rosner
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PaW PULSE SURVEY
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HR Focus
PAGE K20

'Should I accept a position lower than my previous job?'

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I HAVE worked for 15 years as head of HRD of a prestigious consumer company based in Makati. I worked my way up, gaining the rank of vice president.

I availed of a special retirement package early this year because I wanted to "buy" time to do things that I wanted to do, but could not do because I was dedicated and tied to my job. I wanted to take a sabbatical leave, take a break from the rigors of work, make a career shift, unlearn bad habits, develop new productive ones and most especially, spend more time with my two growing kids.

I set a timetable of six months to do these, after which I'd like to go back to work and regain my earning capacity. I am now on my third month of vacation and I am enjoying it very much. At the moment, I am being offered a job in a government corporation. I am very much interested in the job. It is just exactly the career shift I have been envisioning for myself. However, being a government corporation, their position ranking is rather different. The job would be the rank of a manager.

Personally, it would not have bothered me too much as the salary and benefits are acceptable to me. The rules cannot be flexed for somebody like me. For one thing, I have yet to take the required civil service exams. What bothers me is the "image issue." Does it not look like that I am getting desperate to take on a job, as if I am starting all over again? I am almost sure people know me as someone who would not normally accept a "demotion," if ever I go back to employment.

Are my feelings valid? I value the 15 years of hard work I poured into my job and career. Am I not letting down my children if ever this new job materializes? I would be very thankful if you could share with me your invaluable opinion if only to help me sort out my feelings and thoughts. Thank you for being such an inspiration to me.

Downshifter

Congratulations for taking the special retirement package! Especially for the reasons you mentioned, particularly the desire to spend some time with your kids. Surely, what is important is to follow the authentic voice of God within you, guiding you in terms of actions to take in life. If this step was taken in unity with your husband, then be peaceful. I am sure material things can never replace the warmth of a mother's presence at home, even just for a six-month period.

When you talked about accepting

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GET TO KNOW [illegible] AL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
magazine
October 26, 2003

Is rock 'n' roll in the blood? Apparently so, as '70s Pinoy rock goddess Sampaguita, who heated up the stage again in yesterday's 40th anniversary concert for DZRJ, passes on the torch to guitar-playing son Cowboy

Sam and Son

By Eric S. Caruncho
Photograph by Ernie U. Sarmiento

THE YEAR is 1977.

Elvis had just left the building, but rock 'n' roll is about to get a new lease on life.

In New York City's East Village, a clutch of musical renegades with names like Television, Talking Heads and Blondie have established a tightly-knit scene that critics have begun to call "punk rock." Across the Atlantic in London, the British variant, best represented by a group called the Sex Pistols, are causing a national uproar with their rude public behavior and aggressive sound.

Back in Manila, no one has heard of "punk," not yet anyway. But the homegrown version of classic rock 'n' roll—Pinoy rock is at its absolute peak. Although its acknowledged titans, the mighty Juan de la Cruz band, had since atomized, the individual members—Joey "Pepe" Smith and Mike Hanopol, together with perennial arch-rivals Anakbayan and Olongapo's finest, Maria Cafra—are about to wow a capacity crowd of hardcore fans at the Folk Arts Theater.

The evening's entertainment has been billed the "New Moon Concert." The date—11/11/77—is numerologically auspicious. As far as astrologers can ascertain, the planets are in alignment.

In spite of these cosmic advantages, Tessy Alfonso is nervously pacing backstage at the Folk Arts Theater. The former go-go dancer, fashion model, and more recently, mother of two, has reason to be jittery.

She is about to lose her rock 'n' roll virginity.

In the preceding weeks and months, she had allowed her husband Nilo Santos to play Svengali and mold her into his vision of a rock star. Santos had played in a '60s band called the Jungle Cats, but had since given up his dream of being a star himself. Now he aspired to become a starmaker. He was, in fact, managing the bullfrog-voiced "Jeprox King," Mike Hanopol. Santos's basic concept was to find a "female Mike Hanopol." (Vicor Records had recently had great success with a "female Freddie Aguilar" in the person of Asin's Lolita Carbon; that was the way the music biz mentality went in those days). What Santos really meant was someone who could rock like Mike Hanopol, but looked more like another of his faves: believe it or not, Cher, then in her third or fourth career since dumping Sonny Bono.

Anyway, he didn't need to look far. His wife had the looks, she had the moves, and she could carry a tune, more or less. He had also assembled a crack outfit of top musicians behind her. It took a few months of cajoling, pleading and wheedling before she agreed.

"Do it for the kids," he told her. "It can only help them if you become famous."

But the real clincher was when he said: "Do it for Krishna." Both of them had become ardent followers of Jagat Guru's Chaitanya Mission, a breakaway faction from the orthodox Hare Krishna sect.

Friends from the fashion sphere like Larry Leviste and the Budjiwara salon were enlisted to help create the look, which was very much glam slam: silver knee-

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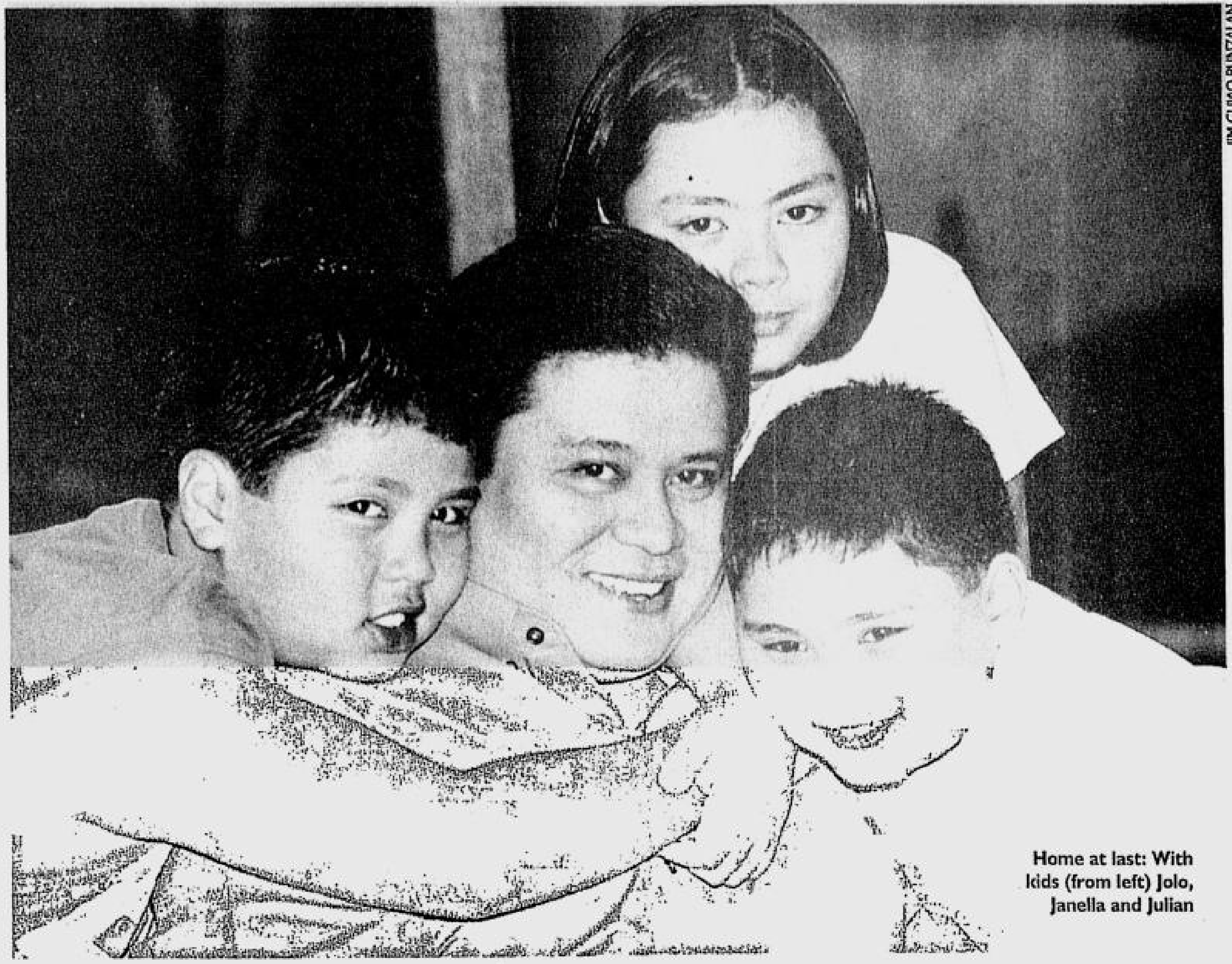
Celebrities

By Tinna S. Bonifacio

Back to Normal


JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Home at last: With kids (from left) Jolo, Janella and Julian

ON HIS first night home, he slept for 10 hours straight. "First time *ko nakatulog sa malambot na kama* (it's the first time I've slept on a soft bed) in two years," says Jinggoy Estrada.

It may not seem like a big deal to most, but for the former San Juan mayor and presidential son, that peaceful, uninterrupted sleep was his first step to claiming back the life he had lost during the two years that he was detained as co-accused with his father, former President Joseph Estrada, on plunder charges before the Sandiganbayan. In the Veterans Memorial Medical Center where father and son spent the most time, Jinggoy slept on a sofa bed set up in an anteroom.

He had trouble sleeping from Day One. "I really had to adjust. *Daanan kasi ng tao yung lugar at malapit pa sa kusina* (The room where I slept was a passage way and was next to the kitchen)," he says. "People kept going in and out so I could never sleep well."

At the North Greenhills home he shares with wife, the former Precy Vitug, and their kids Janella, 13, Jolo, 10, and Julian, 8, Jinggoy's life—and his sleeping habits—have almost returned to normal. Except for the fact that his father is still at Veterans, Jinggoy says he can't complain. In fact, he's now firming up his political plans and has formalized his return to showbiz via the comedy flick "*Utang ng Ama*" where he co-stars opposite Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez and sexy star Katya Santos. The movie, which started screening last October 22, is Jinggoy's first in two years. The movie's timing could also raise more than a few eyebrows; while Jinggoy has his surname to deal with, his co-star is fresh from the brouhaha of his allegedly having gifted ex-girlfriend Kris Aquino with an STD. Talk about plum bad boy casting.

Now on bail from prison, Jinggoy Estrada has lost no time reclaiming his old life and jumping back into the movies with equally controversial co-star Joey Marquez

Jinggoy's decision to return to showbiz is another step towards normalcy, he says. "Even while inside jail, I was already thinking of making a movie. But I had to lose weight first before I could do one," adds Jinggoy. The most difficult part of going back to the movies, he says, is the love scene he had with Santos. "It was my first bed scene in 20 years. The last bed scene I did was for my first or second movie. It was so long ago I can't even remember!" laughs Jinggoy, who had to act the part of a virgin in the movie.

For the scene, Jinggoy had to chase Katya all over the bed. "I was on top of her, she was on top of me; it was so funny," he recalls. "I was so nervous, I was perspiring all over. *Hiningal pa ako sa katatakbo* (I was out of breath from all that running). Katya, on the other hand, was so relaxed and comfortable. Good thing it was a comic scene, so it came out okay."

According to Jinggoy, it wasn't just the fact that he missed showbiz that made him agree to do "*Utang ng Ama*." With everything that has happened in his life, he badly needed a laugh, he says. "I'd forgotten what it's like to laugh."

There were a lot of things Jinggoy had forgotten during the two years that he was jailed, aside from sleeping soundly with his family. "It was hard not being allowed to go out. *Alam mo naman, malakwatsa akong tao* (I love to hang out). Then all of a sudden, nothing. I had a hard time dealing with that."

Things are going to be different this year, Jinggoy says, because for the first time in two years, he'll be home for Christmas. "*Sobrang sakit n'on* (It hurt a lot)," he says of the time he and his family spent the holidays listening to Christmas carols and watching the countdown to New Year on TV inside his prison quarters. "It really hurts when you're helpless and can't do anything about the situation."

What still hurts is knowing his father remains detained, says Jinggoy. "He's already 66. *Naaawa ako sa kanya* (I pity him). I can't stand to see him hurting."

But it's time to move on, he claims. After all, there's no time to be bitter, what with the 2004 elections just around the corner. "When we were jailed, both my father and I became closer to the Lord," reveals Jinggoy. "That helped us get over the bitterness. If God can forgive, why can't we? But we can't forget. Forgiving is different from forgetting. *Diyos na ang bahala sa kanila* (We're leaving it up to God)," he says of his father's political enemies. Unable to resist some sniping, he adds: "They said things would get better once my father was out of office, that the peso would go up. But did that happen?"

Like most politicians, any talk of elections perks him up. Yes, says Jinggoy, he's planning to run for the mayoralty post in San Juan. Yes, he knows this will set the stage for a head-on battle between him and stepbrother JV Ejercito, who currently occupies the position. But he is undaunted. "Definitely, I'm going to run," he declares.

His father's harsh ouster from office has apparently not soured him on politics. "*Nasa dugo na namin ang pulitika* (Politics is in our blood). But more important, we want to serve the people for life. That's the only thing we can do for the poor people—to serve them correctly and honestly," he adds without irony.

It's a claim that the Estrada detractors will certainly take issue with, but Jinggoy shrugs it off. "We have not been convicted up to now. Everything that has happened to us is because of too much politics."

As if to prove his point, he brings up President Arroyo's decision to run for the presidency in 2004 despite an earlier declaration that she would not. "Filipinos value *palabra de honor* (word of honor). Without word of honor, you have no credibility. She broke her promise. But then again, we weren't really surprised. I, in particular, was expecting it since her body language contradicted what she was saying," says Jinggoy.

Like a true politician, he rallies the Estrada supporters and assures them: "*Hindi yan makakalimutan ng pamilya namin* (Our family won't forget their support)."

As for their critics, Jinggoy warns: "Stop picking on us. *Sana yung mga nangyayari sa bansa natin, huwag na nilang isisi sa amin. Nananahimik na kami* (I hope they stop blaming the country's woes on us. We're trying to lead quiet lives now)." Q

Bad boy casting? With co-star Joey Marquez

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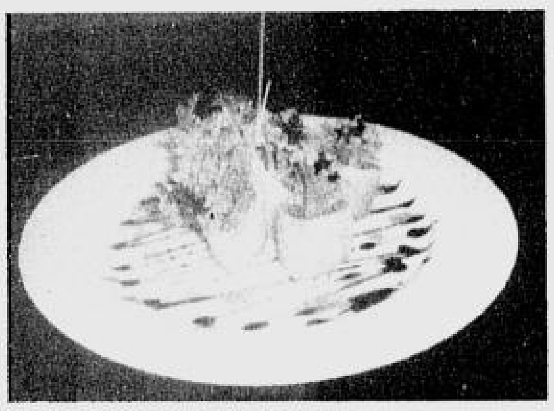


ANNIVERSARY PROMO Cascada (located at Greenbelt 3, Makati) is celebrating its first anniversary this month with a special promo. By answering the Guest Satisfaction Survey, diners can get a chance to win a special seven-course Christmas degustacion dinner for four personally prepared by the restaurant's chef-owners. The promo is ongoing until Nov. 6. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Ang Buhay ni Darna Bilang Parking Attendant

Parking ba? Tara't sumunod kay Darna
At ituturo ko kung saan ka paparada
Maraming naka-park pero hwag ka
Meron pang slot diyan hahanapan kita
Kabig sa kanan para gumitna sa linya
Tingnan mong kumpas ko para diretso ka
Konting atras pa, makinig sa pagtuktok ko
Teka, ako nga ba'y pinapansin mo?
Hinto sabi, hinto!
Tinamaan mo tuloy iyung paa ko
Pero okay walang kaso dahil daplis lang po
At hep, bago ka bumaba at magpatay ng aircon mo
Ako muna'y babati at magpapakilala ako
"Ser, ako si Darna, akong bantay nyo!"
Sana tanda mo ang mukha ko para mamaya
Pagbalik mo abutan mo naman ako ng konting barya
Pero sa ngayon hinahanap ko ang assistant ko
Kelangan ko kasi ng malalagay sa ilalim ng gulong mo
"Ding, ang bato! Pahingi ng kalso!"

Dimpy Jazmines

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

SAFEGUARD's "MedTechs ng Kinabukasan" SCHOLARS NAMED

The Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET) and Safeguard have named the 15 Medical Technology students who qualified for this year's nationwide search for the "Handog ng Safeguard…MedTechs ng Kinabukasan" scholarship program.

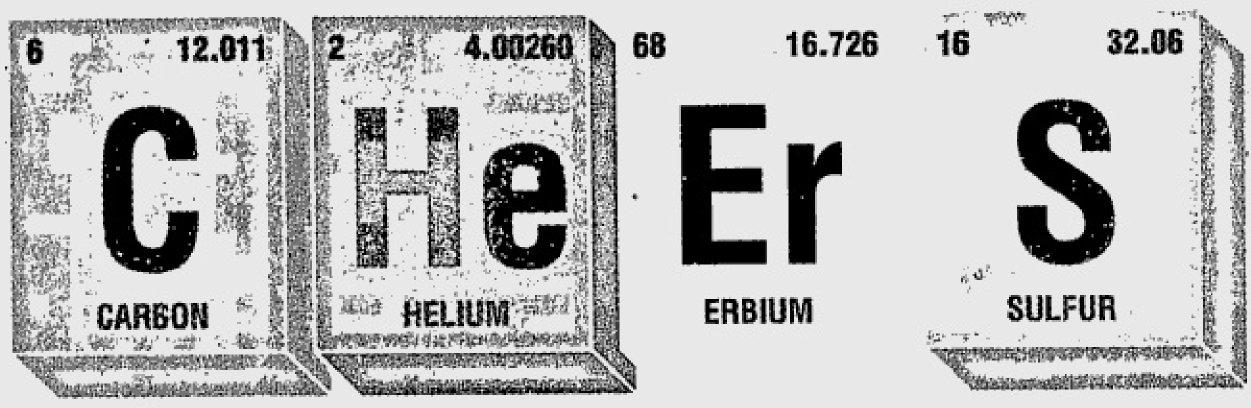
The new batch of scholars, seven of whom are from Luzon, five from Visayas and three from Mindanao, will be feted in simple ceremonies on October 27, 2003 at the Garcia-Villa Room of the Peninsula Manila in Makati City.

They are Merlyn Niño Duave (Angeles University Foundation–Pampanga), Raziel Gayoba (Colegio San Agustin – Bacolod), James Christopher Chua, Joel Velasco, and Regin Clenn Ortiz (Far Eastern University), Mark Adorada (Iloilo Doctors College), Ryan Anthony Buccat (Lorma Colleges – La Union), Dennis Magtibay (Lyceum of Batangas), Noronihar Asama (Mapandi Memorial College-Davao), Luisa Saranillo and Lynn Mae Dedase (San Pedro College-Davao), Ellen Ross Lavilles, Roselyn Limsiaco, and Sheila Mae Fillo (University of Negros Occidental Recolletos-Bacolod), and Amy Soriano (Virgen Milagrosa University-Pangasinan).

They will be granted a three-year scholarship that will cover free tuition and laboratory fees, miscellaneous school fees, and book allowance.

Now on its 14th year, the "Handog ng Safeguard…MedTechs ng Kinabukasan Scholarship Program" is a joint project between Procter & Gamble, makers of Safeguard, and PAMET that aims to support the education of deserving but underprivileged medical technology sophomores who will contribute to the upliftment and maintenance of public health in their communities.

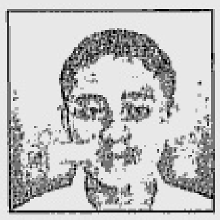
The program is also Safeguard's way of thanking the Filipino consumers for the loyalty and support they have given the brand over the years. To date, the program has awarded 178 scholarship grants and has helped 103 Medical Technology graduates.



2003
HANDOG
NG
Safeguard
MedTechs
Ng Kinabukasan
SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM

Congratulations to the newest batch of Med Tech Scholars:

Amy Soriano
Virgen Milagrosa University


Dennis Magtibay
Lyceum of Batangas

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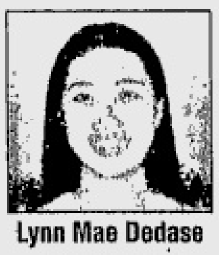
University of
Negros Occidental Recolletos

James Chua
Far Eastern University

Joel Velasco
Far Eastern University

Luisa Saranillo
San Pedro College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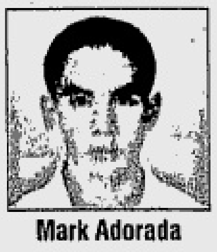
San Pedro College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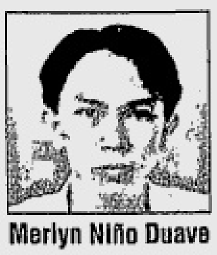
Iloilo Doctors College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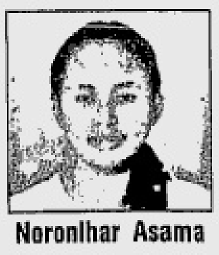
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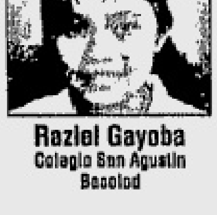
Mapandi Memorial College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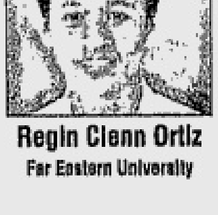
Bacolod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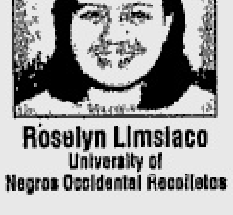
Far Eastern University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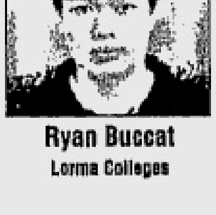
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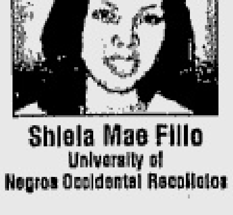

Shiela Mae Fillo
University of
Negros Occidental Recolletos

Safeguard and PAMET congratulate Batch 14 of the MedTechs ng Kinabukasan Scholarship Program. Your sterling performance in school, leadership capabilities, concern for public health, and dedication to your profession have seen you through this year's qualifying exams. And as a result, you now join a select group of 178 scholars and 103 graduates to date. A toast to all of you who have the elements to raise our nation's standards of health.

PAMET
1964

Safeguard

Sam

...from page 1

high buccaneer boots, a sparkling white jumpsuit, Cleopatra hair. The musicians started jamming and making up tunes. One of them, percussionist Nick Boogie, even came up with the perfect name: Sampaguita—the only flower among the thorns.

Tonight was the moment of truth. If Sampaguita-to-be had any last-minute misgivings, it was too late. The lights go on, the band cranks up, the crowd roars and the world turns into a blur...

"I was floored," recalls Sampaguita, Sam for short. "I never expected to see so many people. The people were like 'Wow! *Ano 'yan?*.' They loved it! It was overwhelming. And I was able to do it because I became someone else. I didn't feel like Tessy. Tessy would have probably peed in her pants!"

It would have taken some doing to upstage the likes of Pepe, Mike, Resty Fabunan and Edmund Fortuno—bona fide rock stars all—but the newly-christened Sampaguita was the hit of the New Moon Concert. Audiences were used to seeing women do folksy numbers, like Coritha and Lolita Carbon, but a woman up front doing out-and-out rock 'n' roll was completely unheard of in 1977 Manila. Sampaguita was the first.

It would take some time for the rest of the country to catch up, though.

With their usual prescience, recording company executives scratched their heads at Sampaguita's demo tape of her first single, an unusual ditty called "*Bonggahan*." The Taglish lyrics were specially puzzling: "*Panahon na para magsaya,* forget *mo na ang problema, pa*-dance dance *para sumigla,* rock 'n' roll *hanggang umaga.*" What the f--- was that all about? In 1977, gayspeak had not permeated mainstream culture to the extent it has today.

They had in fact already rejected her, until Blackgold Records head honcho Vic del Rosario saw Sam on television, doing the grind with her outrageous costumes. Having seen the complete package, he signed her up immediately. The following year, the classic "Sampaguita Vol. 1" album was released, and it spawned a series of hit singles. "*Bonggahan*" was followed in quick succession by "Laguna" and "Easy, *Pare*." "*Bonggahan*" even spun off into a movie called "*Pabonggahan*."

No one was more surprised than Sampaguita herself.

"I was the right person at the right time with the right songs. The planets were ready for Pinoy rock. This wasn't my world, Pinoy rock, *sosi ako, eh*. I didn't know there was such a big following. I was shocked."

Sampaguita realized that the music could serve as a vehicle for delivering a spiritual message. There was a reason why all her stage costumes were white—she was supposed to represent the forces of light, to balance the dark side that dominated the rock scene. Alongside the album's good time rockers were overtly devotional songs such as "*Liwanag*," "*Tao*," and "*Sa Diyos Lamang*." The public ate them up, too. "I saw that I could help in my own little way to let a little light through," she says. "I was rocking for God."

The peak came with another monster concert, New Moon III in 1979.

"I thought I could die in that costume," she says, looking at a picture of herself in an Indian headdress of blinding white feathers. "I felt I was God's child. Energy was coming from the crowd, and when they called for more, the band broke into the Mahamantra and the whole Araneta Coliseum was chanting 'Hare Krishna.' I was moved to tears."

Call it karma. Sampaguita's father, Pete Alfonso, had owned the Café Indonesia on Roxas Boulevard. In the late '50s, it was the swinging hot spot in Manila, where the likes of Lito Molina, Emil Mijares and Tony Velarde played jazz. Fridays, however, were reserved for rock 'n' roll: solo acts like Eddie Mesa and bands like the Hi-Jacks. "It was always jampacked, day and night, and my dad would let us sing onstage," recalls Sam.

The onset of puberty coincided with the youthquake of the '60s. Some talent hounds spotted her dancing at a party, and lost no time getting her as a cage dancer for a new musical variety show on TV called "Nineteeners." Miniskirts, go-go boots, the whole deal.

"It was Austin Powers, totally," recalls Sam.

It was there she caught the eye of a young musician named Nilo Santos, who played with a band called the Jungle Cats. Santos lost no time sweeping her off her feet.

But although she was rubbing elbows with the likes of Joey Smith, then drummer for the Downbeats, and Jungle Cat Wally Gonzales, music was just one trip among many. As the '70s dawned, Sam found herself drawn into the world of fashion, doing ramp work for the First Lady's Bagong Anyo '72, Collectiones New York and Nora Daza's Au Bon Vivant.

In the '70s, the world of fashion was like the Valley of the Dolls. It was a heavy party scene. A lot of the girls and fashion designers were popping pills. There were plenty of guys hanging around with pockets full of drugs to impress the chicks.

"I had pictorials which never made it to the magazine covers because when the photographer looked closely at the negatives, my eyes were shot," laughs Sam. Motherhood tempered her indulgences somewhat. She had a daughter, Dolly, then a son, Cowboy. By the time she made the transition from fashion to rock 'n' roll, drugs were already old hat.

"We were wild then. We had a choice of drugs—morphine, opium, mescaline. And back then, you could play totally stoned. The audiences didn't care. But I was more into that lifestyle as a model," she says. "When I was Sampaguita, I was behaving already. We were chanting 'Hare Krishna.' I was popping pills to wake up and to go to sleep, but I wasn't into it for the trip. I wouldn't glorify drugs in my songs or in my performance. The music was something holy, something sacred."

By the time "Sampaguita Vol. 2" came out in 1980, Sam had found a way to balance the craziness of rock 'n' roll with the responsibilities of family life. "I never really felt 'I'm Sampaguita'," she explains. "It's like Darna and Narda. I knew the difference between fantasy and reality. Sampaguita was the performer onstage. Offstage, I was a mother. I didn't bring it home with me."

BUT the fruit doesn't fall far from the tree.

"I knew from when I was about three or four that I wanted to be part of a band," says Cowboy Santos, now 28. "I never thought about the technical aspect, learning to play guitar until much later, but as far as the glamor aspect, yeah! I was totally into it."

Even as a toddler, Cowboy would walk around the house in his mother's scarves and hats, and devising his own stage costumes was just child's play. When he was a little older, he went with the band to Olongapo, to a club called 100% Rock, where he would play air guitar with Sam onstage.

In the '80s, however, Sam and Nilo Santos broke up, and Cowboy went with his father to the US, where he would stay until he was 18. In the meantime, Sam had become involved with advertising man Miguel Romero, and given birth to her third child, daughter Jacinta.

When Cowboy returned to the Philippines, the local music scene had been reinvigorated with the advent of "alternative" rock. A number of bands were also looking toward the classic Pinoy rock of the past for inspiration, among them contemporaries such as Razorback and Wolfgang. There was no question where his interests would go.

"I was doing home study, and there were my books on one side and the guitar on the other," he recalls. "It wasn't really a choice."

Cowboy started practicing in earnest, and was soon good enough to be his mother's second guitarist. He played guitar for a short-lived group called Luzviminda, with Maegan Aguilar on drums and Rocky Perez (Gary's son) on bass. A more workmanly stint with the Blue Rats followed, where he honed his chops in weekly club gigs at the Hobbit House and the Republic of Malate.

Today, Cowboy plays with his own group called the Gypsy Suns, most often in Kid Creole in Makati. "I just want to play as much as possible, as often as possible, and hone my craft," says the lanky mestizo, who also does a bit of commercial modeling on the side.

He's also been promoted to lead guitarist with Sampaguita. "He's earned his stripes," says his mother proudly. "He's earned his right to be here."

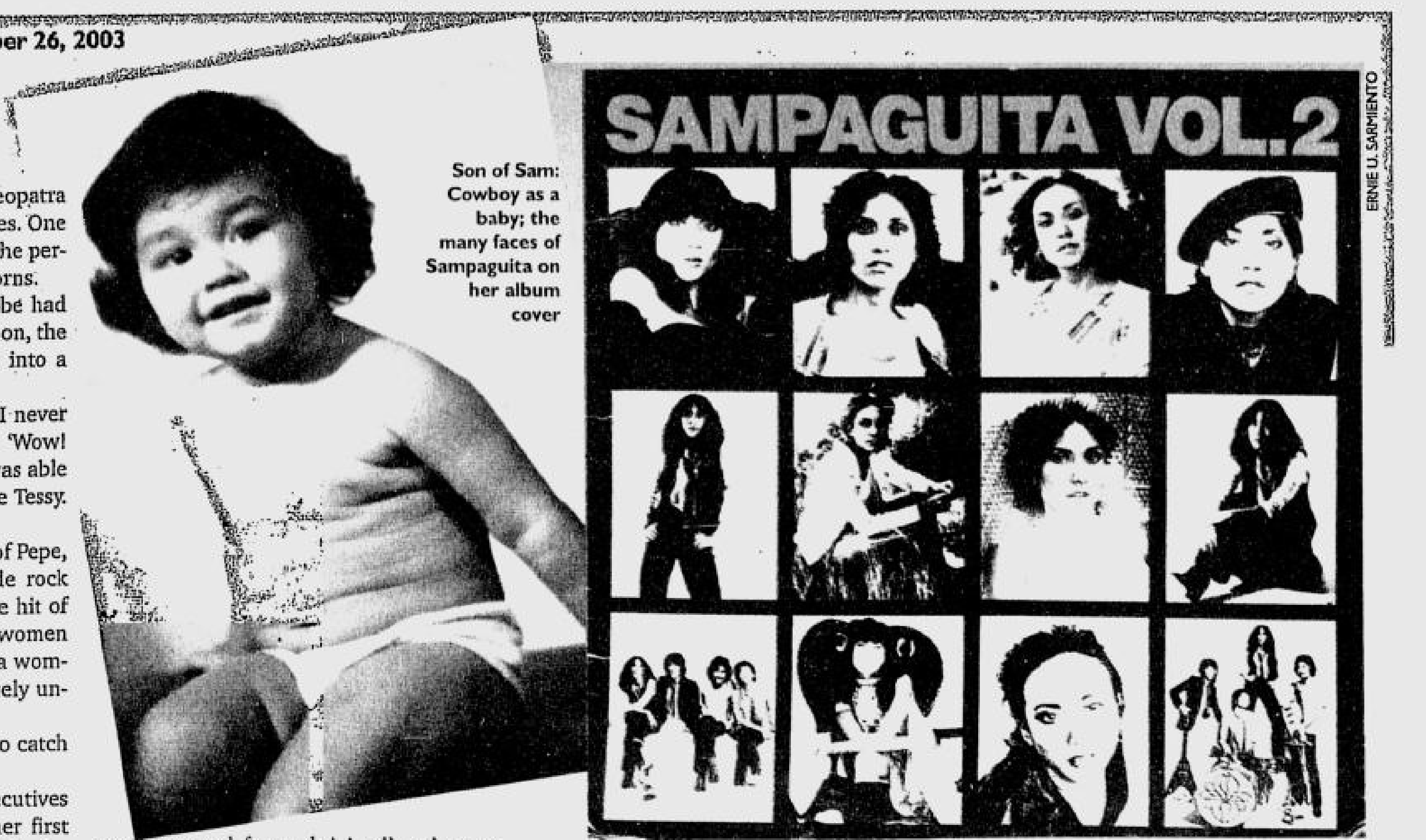
For his part, Cowboy doesn't seem to be afflicted with the neuroses that children of famous parents are said to be heir to. "It's nice to be recognized as the offspring of somebody great," he says. "If you look at it in a positive way, it can only help. Living up to greatness isn't easy. You have to set your standards higher."

Sampaguita never really retired. She just went into hibernation, emerging now and then for the odd appearance. "Maybe that's the way I stayed alive," she says. "By not peaking. Tantric, 'no?"

She is more concerned about passing the Pinoy rock torch to the next generation. One of her projects involves a band consisting of Cowboy on guitar, Edmund Fortuno's son Moon on drums and Joey Smith's daughter Sanya on vocals. If everything gels, the group would have made it for her latest public performance, the 40th anniversary concert of DZRJ yesterday, Oct. 25.

As for resurrecting the rock icon, she reflects: "As I feel now, Sampaguita wasn't really my dream. It was Nilo's dream come true. Sampaguita for me was an experience. It's not me. It's not a person. I've moved on."

These days, Sam is more into interior design and pastry. But when she walks onstage and the drummer counts four—well, you know what happens when Narda shouts "DARNA!"



Son of Sam: Cowboy as a baby; the many faces of Sampaguita on her album cover

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Kiss of the Spider Woman: Sam in full regalia at the New Moon Concert, circa 1979

The easy way to get Marc Nelson's body

He has the most disarming smile and the most charming presence. The man is an absolute dreamboat. But in all honestly, there is something else about him that makes him very attractive. The man has the body that most people want to have (in one way or another!).

It's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that he probably spends most of his time in the gym. But what may look like the result of a dedicated career in body-building is really just something he does to feel goodabout himself. "Body builders are people like Schwarzenneger. I'm really into this to stay fit and to stay in shape."

And it shows in the way he started, way back to the time he was still doing "Keep On Dancing". He found himself with a little time in his hands and, since he lived very close to a gym, he decided to start a fitness regimen and see how far he could take it. He worked out around four times a week and got dramatic results in just 6 month's time. And so was shaped and created the body that sold millions of men's underwear.

Now that he is a successful model, surely staying in shape has become more serious for him? "Certainly work has something to do about it. But it really is still all for myself. I love the feeling of being fit and healthy, of feeling good about myself and my body." And that is where he gets his biggest motivation.

Marc stays committed to going to the gym when he has the time. In fact, he tries to make the time for it within his very busy schedule. And when he does, he makes sure he has a workout that's worth the time he spent.

He is also careful with what he eats. He watches his carbohydrate intake and opts for healthier alternatives. "I hardly eat rice unless I'm really hungry and I don't have much of a choice. And I try to avoid fatty foods. If I have a choice between something fried or grilled, I'd go for the grilled."

Does he ever cheat? "I don't even consider it cheating because I'm not really on a strict diet. I mean, I still eat the usual pizza and burger every now and then." What Marc does is really to watch out for the things he can avoid like sugar and sweets. That's why he always brings around his own Equal in his pocket.

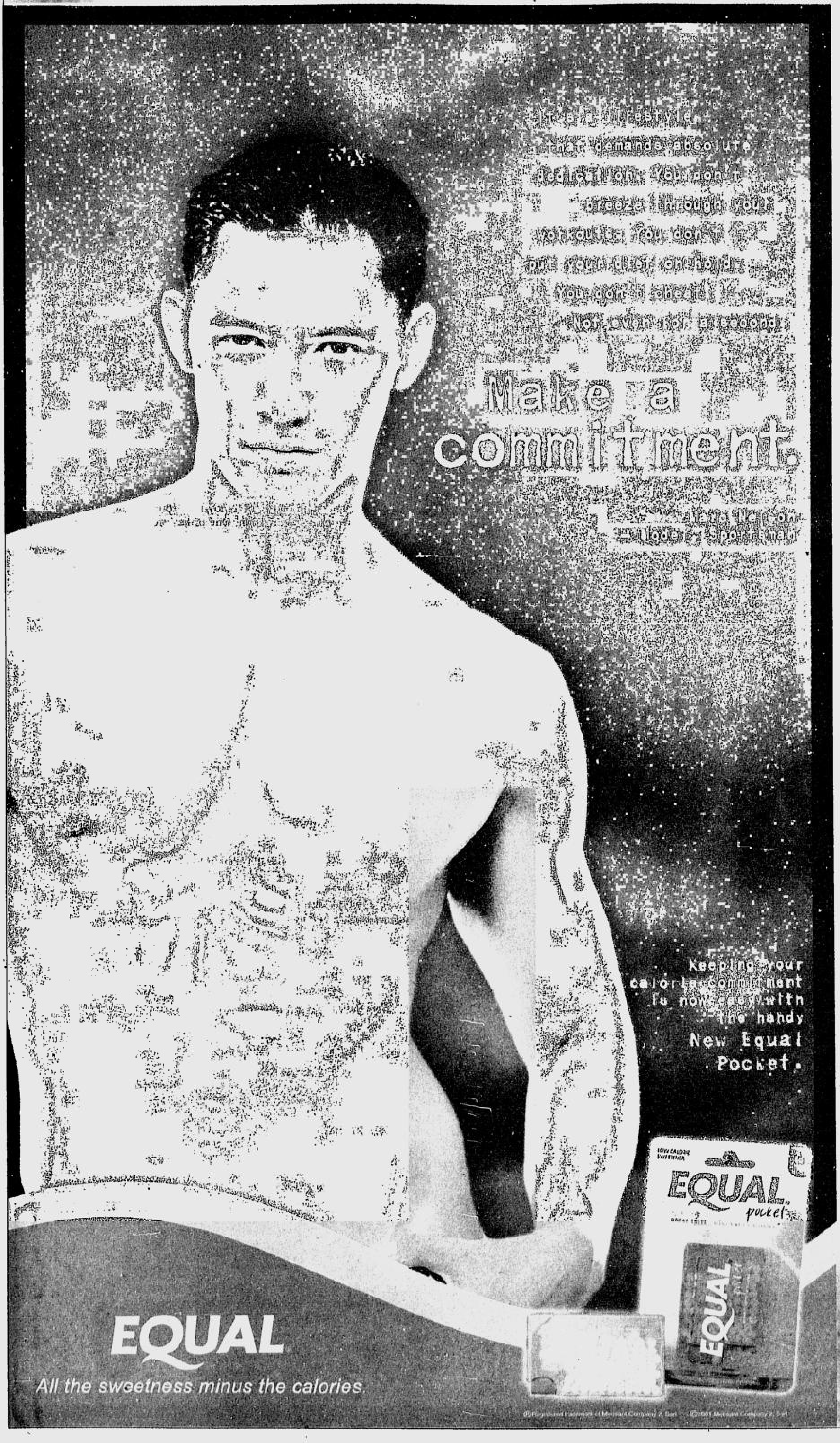
"Most places would have nothing but white sugar and, to me, that's really not too good a situation to be in. That's why I carry my own Equal around. I really think it tastes fantastic and it's a very easy alternative. I mean carrying it around, specially the new Equal Pocket design, is not very difficult to do. Really, it's a no-brainer!"

Thank god for easy, convenient and helpful things like the new Equal Pocket. But it's still hard to believe that getting the body of Marc Nelson can be that easy. So we asked him... What does it really take?

"Just look for a good gym, get yourself a good trainer or work-out buddy and stay focused and committed to your work-out and your diet."

So there you have it, the easy way to a body to die for. No major sacrifices. No happiness-threatening deprivations. All you really need to do is to keep your commitment and always opt for healthier food options. Like when you want to indulge, get all the sweetness minus the calories with your own Equal Pocket.

That's all there is to it. So says Marc Nelson.


It's a lifestyle
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dedication. You don't
breeze through your
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You don't cheat.
Not even for a second.
Make a commitment.
—Marc Nelson
—Model, Sportsman
Keeping your
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is now easy with
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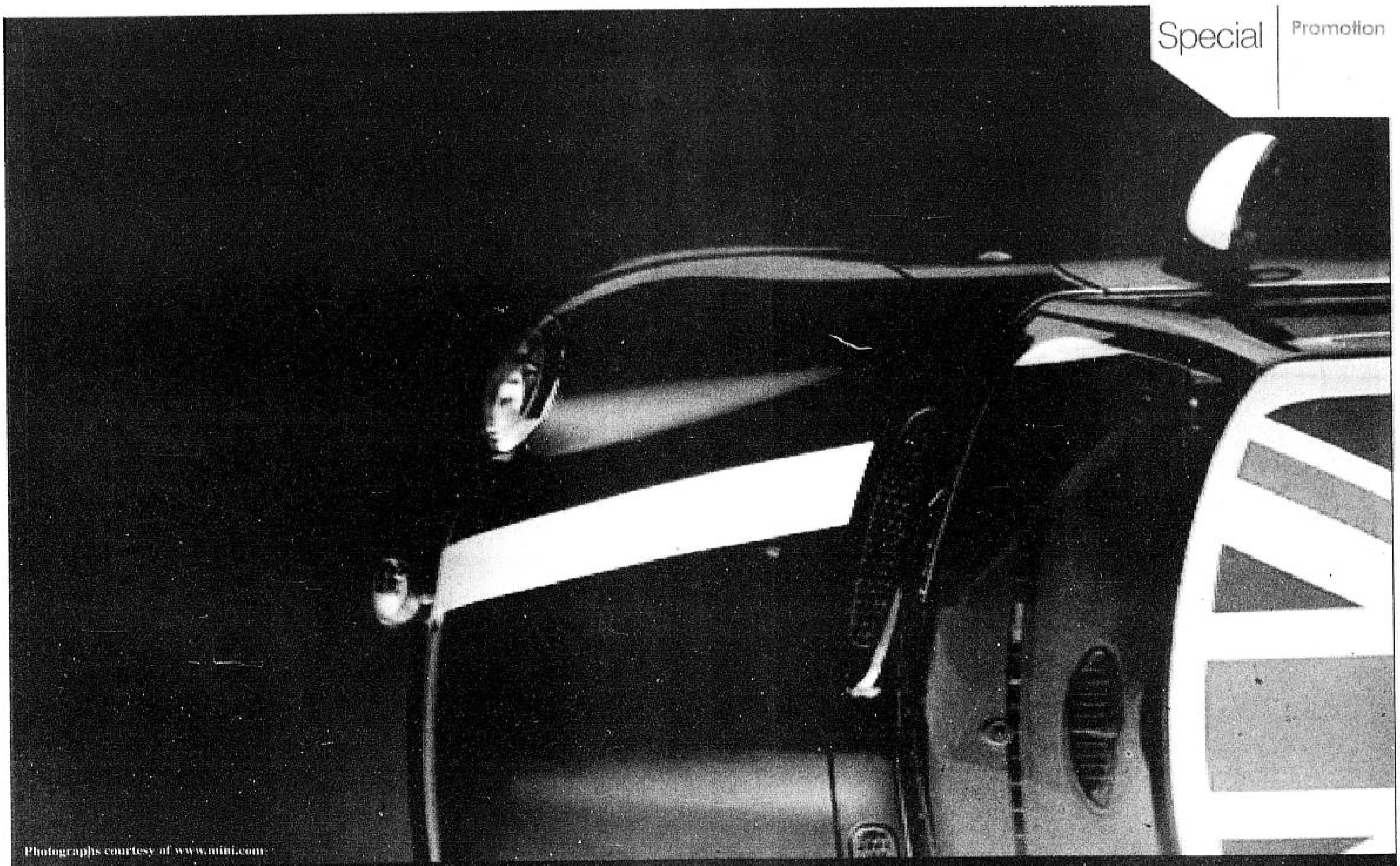


Photographs courtesy of www.mini.com

THE MINI COOPER

DOWNLOADED AT SPEED

With Addict Mobile

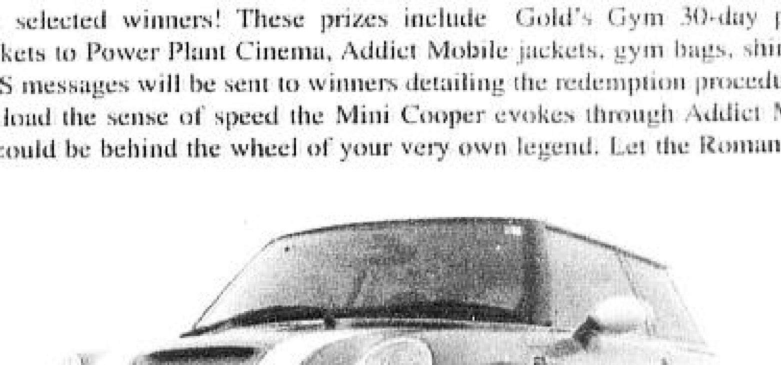
The name Mini Cooper invokes thoughts of high-speed chases, tight cornering, and excitement induced stunts ala The Italian Job. This is the popular concept of a car that is romanticized by millions and collected by many whose souls burn for this dashing little car that refuses to die. Impractical and quixotic, the car has stood the test of time and is a reminder of the days of old when the experience was more important than any kind of monetary value.

August 26, 1959 was the day the Mini was born. Alec Issigonis designed a car in the late 1950s that would primarily seat four adults and their baggage. Its parent company British Motor Corp. was formed by a merger of Austin and Morris and therefore there were two rendered cars - the Austin Seven and Morris Mini-Minor. From 1959 to 1962 production was at 20,000 cars per year. By 1962 BMC turned out 200,000 cars per year. The first Mini Cooper was launched in 1961, a high performance version developed jointly with the racing car constructor John Cooper. The Rover Group bought the Mini car company in 1990 and the BMW group purchased the Rover Group by 1994. The new Mini Cooper went on sale in the spring of 2002 to rapturous praise from all those who followed the automotive industry with passion. The Romance, for now, will undoubtedly continue…

This year SMART Communications, Inc. will offer several lucky subscribers the chance to ride out their romantic fantasies for real. Addict Mobile's "Download Speed" usage promotion will earn Addict Mobile subscribers a chance to win 4 Mini Coopers, 2 Ducati Superbikes, 8 MMS Sony Ericsson phones, and 8 circuit racing classes from Tuason Racing School. All Addict Mobile subscribers can participate by downloading MMS Content or by sending or recieving MMS. You get one raffle entry for every 2 MMS transactions. New Addict Mobile subscribers will automatically be entered in the raffle as long as they activate during the promo period of October 17, 2003 to February 29, 2004. New subscribers will get the following number of raffle tickets: for Plan 800 you get 1 ticket., for Plan 1335 you get 3 tickets, for Plan 1995 you get 6 tickets, for Plan 2665 you get 12 entries, and for Plan 3500 you get a whopping 24 raffle tickets!

The first Grand Draw will be held on the first week of January 2004, and the second will be on the first week of March 2004. Instant prizes will also be sent to randomly selected winners! These prizes include Gold's Gym 30-day passes, movie tickets to Power Plant Cinema, Addict Mobile jackets, gym bags, shirts and caps. SMS messages will be sent to winners detailing the redemption procedures.

Download the sense of speed the Mini Cooper evokes through Addict Mobile and you could be behind the wheel of your very own legend. Let the Romance roll on…



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Pinoy Nga

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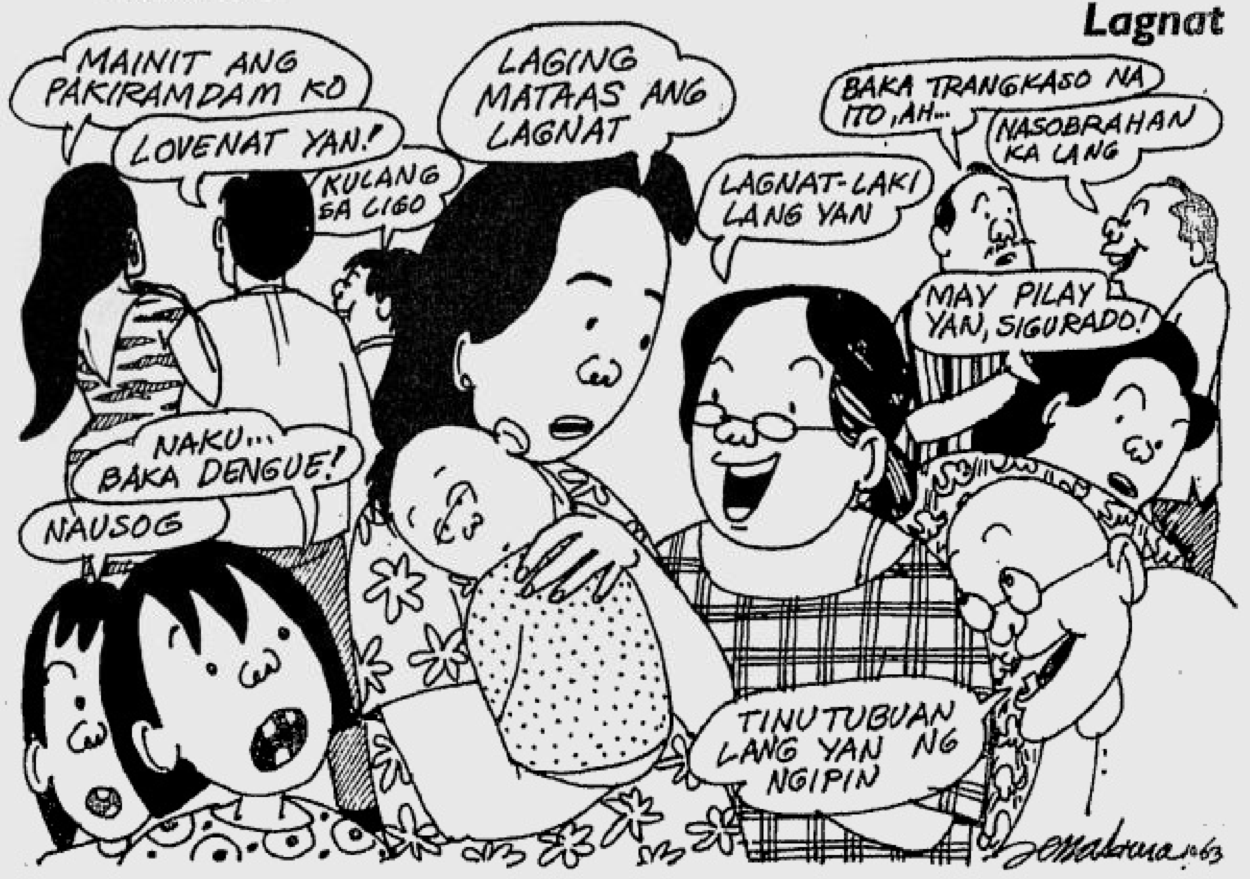

Love Notes

By Joe D' Mango

To Wed or Not to Wed

I was shocked that it was so easy for her to just turn her back on me and decide to marry her ex-boyfriend just because I was not yet ready for marriage

Dear Joe,

Just call me Andy. I'm working as a network engineer in one of the big petroleum companies in the Philippines. I became involved with Julie, a co-worker of mine. Back then she had a boyfriend named Ted. But their relationship was not going anywhere because Ted was lazy and unambitious.

Julie and I started off as friends, and I became her confidante whenever she felt she needed to talk to someone about her disappointment with her boyfriend. She kept telling me that she would be the happiest girl in the world if Ted could be half as hardworking as I am. I also found her quite admirable. A product of an unwanted pregnancy, she worked hard to get herself through school. And now she has to work doubly hard to support not only her mother but also her uncles, nieces and nephews.

This mutual admiration led to us getting closer, until one night, while prepping up for a project at my place, we were carried away by our growing feelings for each other. We then started a relationship unknown to Ted, although they continued with theirs. I'm not the type of guy who would willingly share a girl with another man, but since Julie refused to break up with him, I just had to settle with what I had in the meantime.

Then one day, Julie learned that Ted had been cheating on her. She was so mad that she finally broke up with him, obviously to my advantage. But since then, another facet of her personality started to manifest itself: Julie is extremely insecure. Most of the time she would nag me about the other girls that I come in contact with. The smallest things triggered nasty confrontations. All these contributed to what became an on-and-off relationship. Most of the time we're okay. Whenever we're not fighting, Julie is actually the sweetest, most thoughtful, caring and affectionate woman in the world. But whenever we fight, she turns into a vicious tiger, something I find hard to accept.

Soon Julie was asking me when we were going to get married. I couldn't give her a straight answer since, to be honest, I wasn't ready yet. But I did love her. So I told her we'd start the wedding preparations as soon as I completed a six month-long overseas project. She was clearly disappointed. Julie also didn't want to go though the usual preparations of a formal church ceremony, and instead wanted a quick civil wedding—something I was against. Two months later, just before I left, Julie broke up with me. When I asked why, she said she had accepted Ted's marriage proposal, though she still loved me more.

I was shocked that it was so easy for her to just turn her back on me and decide to marry her ex-boyfriend just because I was not yet ready for marriage. That's when I realized that I loved her too much to just let her go without a fight.

The day after she told me of her plans of marrying Ted, I immediately rushed to a jewelry store to buy an engagement ring. But when I gave her the ring, she broke down and cried—and not because of happiness. I was shocked beyond words when Julie told me that she's a month pregnant, and that Ted is the father of the baby.

By the time you read this letter, Julie and Ted would have gotten married. At first I couldn't understand what happened. Now whenever I look back at what happened, I can't seem to find the Julie that I came to know and love. It's like she turned into a completely different person.

Somebody once told me that Julie was never really in love with me. Rather, she was in love with my potential as a husband. If it's true, then I guess I wasted all those years loving a woman whose sole objective in life is to get married, regardless of who she's marrying. I have since learned to accept what happened, but sometimes I stop and think about Julie. I guess I still miss her. She is, after all, the woman that I loved the most.

Glenn

Dear Glenn,

Sometimes it is difficult to understand why people act the way they do. Our attitudes in life are products of all our past experiences, good and bad, intertwined in a way that make us who we are.

Julie came from a broken family and this probably explains why she wanted to constantly feel secure in her relationships. She considers marriage as the perfect bond, the ultimate guarantee that she'll have her man forever. Unfortunately, not all marriages end happily. There are couples who break apart and never reconcile their differences.

The thought of being away from you for six months gave Julie the shivers. She wanted to settle for a civil wedding so she could have peace of mind but you knew that was being too hasty. This, I believe, was the turning point in your relationship, the event that has put it to its ultimate test. She misinterpreted your decision which gave her enough reason to rekindle an old flame.

Unfortunately, the flame raged into a wild fire and she suddenly found herself in the same situation that her mother was. Since she didn't want to see another child growing up without a father, she opted for the only solution in sight—marriage.

It may not be a wise decision but she seems to have been left with no choice at all. She may have loved you but she wanted to be fair, too. I know how hard it is to lose someone we love. But sometimes we just can't have it all. She must have seen in you the ability to provide her the security she wants in life. But a part of her still belonged to Ted.

Glenn, you are bitter because you have given so much only to lose what you wanted to keep forever. If you really love Julie then pray that she may find happiness and fulfillment in the arms of Ted. Do not be sorry for the years you thought you have wasted for these were filled with moments shared with someone you love in a relationship you believed in. As has always been said, we should embrace love when it comes knocking on our door and willingly let go when it says goodbye. We shouldn't regret that we have lost it but be thankful that once in our lives, it dwelled in our hearts and made us happy.

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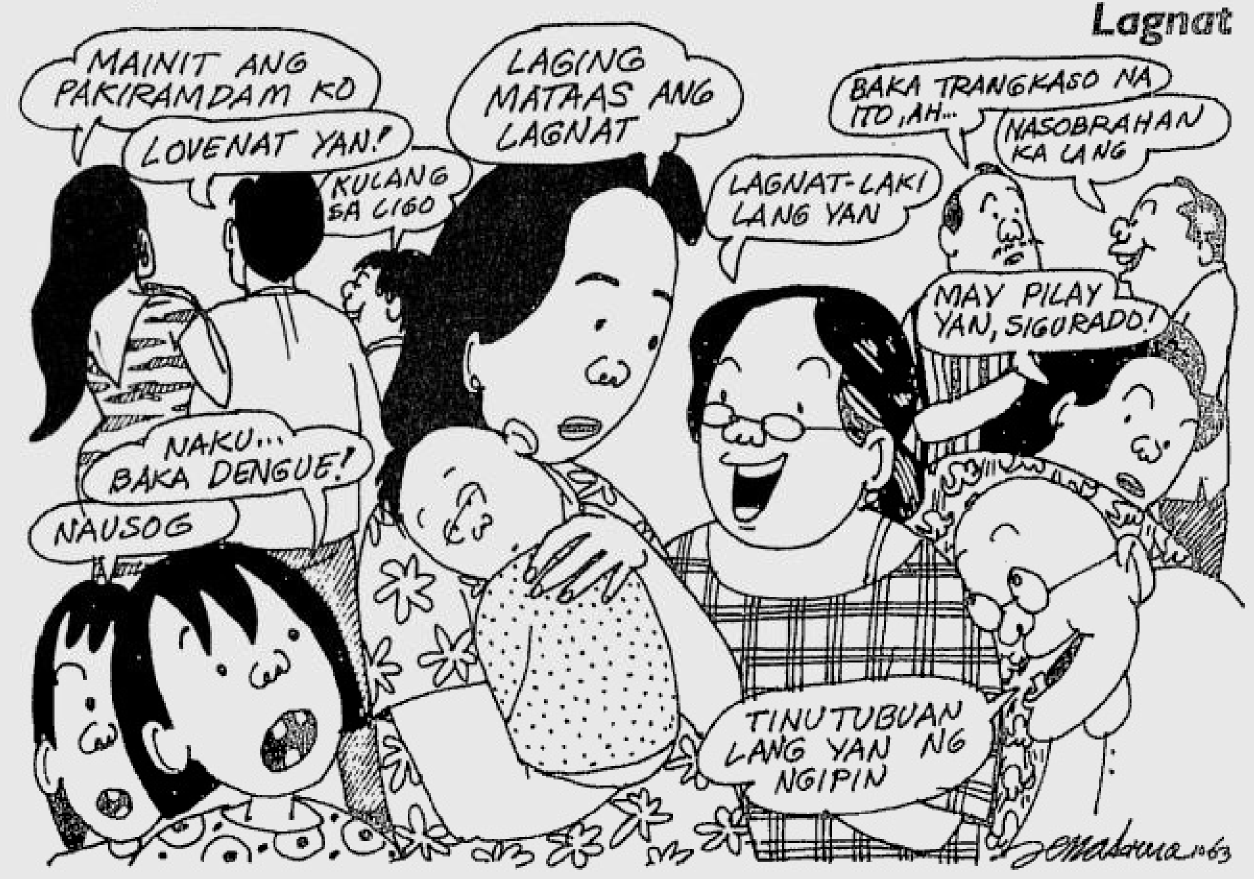

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Dear Joe,

Just call me Andy. I'm working as a network engineer in one of the big petroleum companies in the Philippines. I became involved with Julie, a co-worker of mine. Back then she had a boyfriend named Ted. But their relationship was not going anywhere because Ted was lazy and unambitious.

Julie and I started off as friends, and I became her confidante whenever she felt she needed to talk to someone about her disappointment with her boyfriend. She kept telling me that she would be the happiest girl in the world if Ted could be half as hardworking as I am. I also found her quite admirable. A product of an unwanted pregnancy, she worked hard to get herself through school. And now she has to work doubly hard to support not only her mother but also her uncles, nieces and nephews.

This mutual admiration led to us getting closer, until one night, while prepping up for a project at my place, we were carried away by our growing feelings for each other. We then started a relationship unknown to Ted, although they continued with theirs. I'm not the type of guy who would willingly share a girl with another man, but since Julie refused to break up with him, I just had to settle with what I had in the meantime.

Then one day, Julie learned that Ted had been cheating on her. She was so mad that she finally broke up with him, obviously to my advantage. But since then, another facet of her personality started to manifest itself: Julie is extremely insecure. Most of the time she would nag me about the other girls that I come in contact with. The smallest things triggered nasty confrontations. All these contributed to what became an on-and-off relationship. Most of the time we're okay. Whenever we're not fighting, Julie is actually the sweetest, most thoughtful, caring and affectionate woman in the world. But whenever we fight, she turns into a vicious tiger, something I find hard to accept.

Soon Julie was asking me when we were going to get married. I couldn't give her a straight answer since, to be honest, I wasn't ready yet. But I did love her. So I told her we'd start the wedding preparations as soon as I completed a six month-long overseas project. She was clearly disappointed. Julie also didn't want to go though the usual preparations of a formal church ceremony, and instead wanted a quick civil wedding—something I was against. Two months later, just before I left, Julie broke up with me. When I asked why, she said she had accepted Ted's marriage proposal, though she still loved me more.

I was shocked that it was so easy for her to just turn her back on me and decide to marry her ex-boyfriend just because I was not yet ready for marriage. That's when I realized that I loved her too much to just let her go without a fight.

The day after she told me of her plans of marrying Ted, I immediately rushed to a jewelry store to buy an engagement ring. But when I gave her the ring, she broke down and cried—and not because of happiness. I was shocked beyond words when Julie told me that she's a month pregnant, and that Ted is the father of the baby.

By the time you read this letter, Julie and Ted would have gotten married. At first I couldn't understand what happened. Now whenever I look back at what happened, I can't seem to find the Julie that I came to know and love. It's like she turned into a completely different person.

Somebody once told me that Julie was never really in love with me. Rather, she was in love with my potential as a husband. If it's true, then I guess I wasted all those years loving a woman whose sole objective in life is to get married, regardless of who she's marrying. I have since learned to accept what happened, but sometimes I stop and think about Julie. I guess I still miss her. She is, after all, the woman that I loved the most.

Glenn

Dear Glenn,

Sometimes it is difficult to understand why people act the way they do. Our attitudes in life are products of all our past experiences, good and bad, intertwined in a way that make us who we are.

Julie came from a broken family and this probably explains why she wanted to constantly feel secure in her relationships. She considers marriage as the perfect bond, the ultimate guarantee that she'll have her man forever. Unfortunately, not all marriages end happily. There are couples who break apart and never reconcile their differences.

The thought of being away from you for six months gave Julie the shivers. She wanted to settle for a civil wedding so she could have peace of mind but you knew that was being too hasty. This, I believe, was the turning point in your relationship, the event that has put it to its ultimate test. She misinterpreted your decision which gave her enough reason to rekindle an old flame.

Unfortunately, the flame raged into a wild fire and she suddenly found herself in the same situation that her mother was. Since she didn't want to see another child growing up without a father, she opted for the only solution in sight—marriage.

It may not be a wise decision but she seems to have been left with no choice at all. She may have loved you but she wanted to be fair, too. I know how hard it is to lose someone we love. But sometimes we just can't have it all. She must have seen in you the ability to provide her the security she wants in life. But a part of her still belonged to Ted.

Glenn, you are bitter because you have given so much only to lose what you wanted to keep forever. If you really love Julie then pray that she may find happiness and fulfillment in the arms of Ted. Do not be sorry for the years you thought you have wasted for these were filled with moments shared with someone you love in a relationship you believed in. As has always been said, we should embrace love when it comes knocking on our door and willingly let go when it says goodbye. We shouldn't regret that we have lost it but be thankful that once in our lives, it dwelled in our hearts and made us happy.

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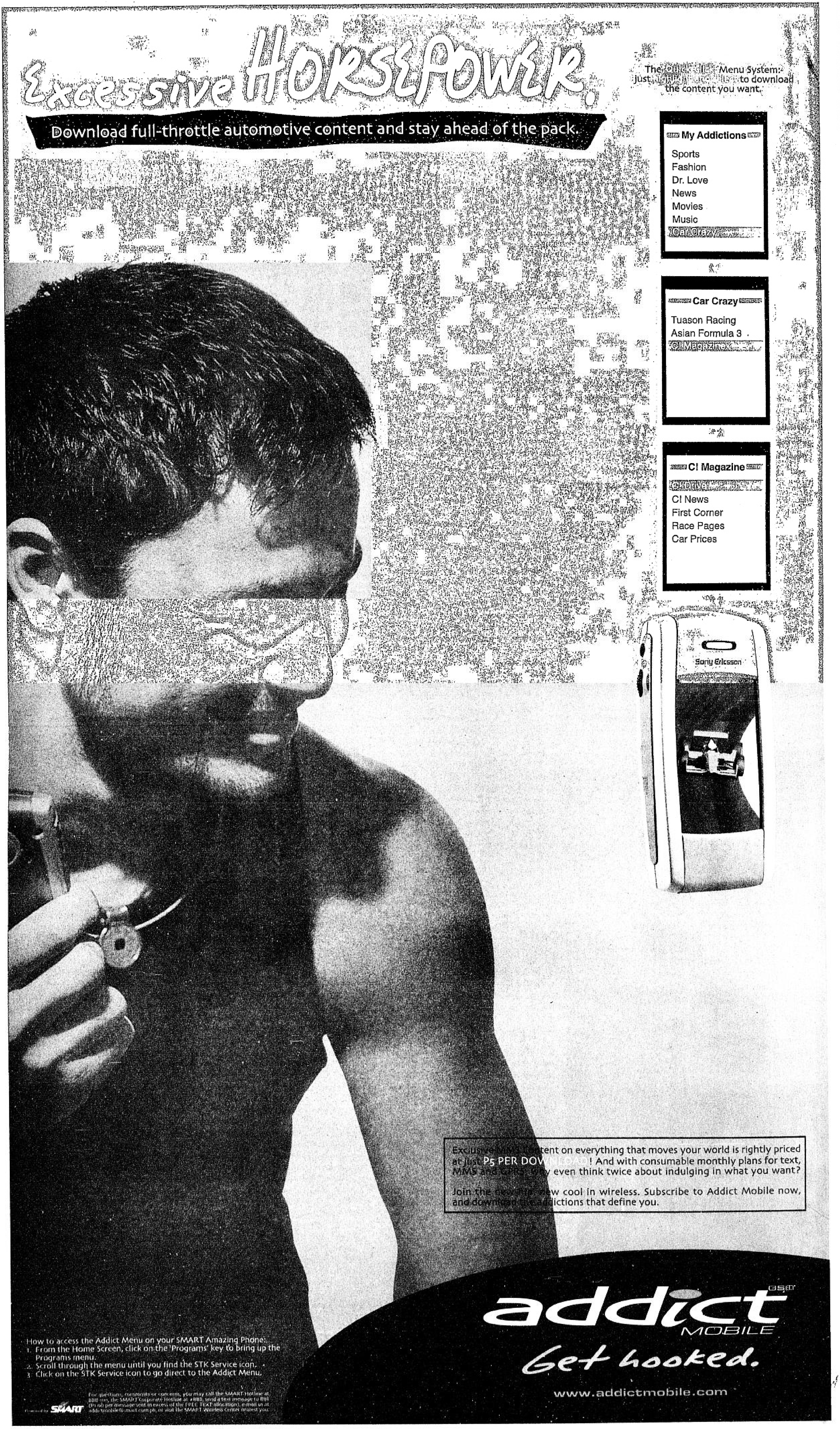

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